Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Do you like the final design chosen for the CNMI commemorative quarter?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

POW Found

After decades of denials, the Chinese have acknowledged burying an American prisoner of war in China.

NATION...Page 10

Saipan Zoo

If you don't have anything better to do this summer, then consider a day trip to the Tropical Garden Zoo.

YOUNGSTYLE...Page 17

First Baby

Jamie Lynn Spears has given birth to a baby girl.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 20

Saipan Chamber backs smoking ban bill but...PAGE 2

'ConCon better than piecemeal charter changes' PAGE 5

Freedom Air hikes prices

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
stefan_sebastian@saipantribune.com
BUSINESS EDITOR

Freedom Airlines, a major air service in the Commonwealth, has just enacted its first major price hike in 12 years, responding to rising fuel and shipping costs, a move that is sure to put added strain on travelers.

The increase comes just after Continental Airlines earlier this month announced it will cut direct flights between Saipan and the Philippines in July, also citing a jump in fuel costs.

Inquiries with Freedom's offices showed the price of tickets from Saipan to Tinian have jumped $20 to $84. The price spike is steeper for tickets on the

See FREEDOM on Page 4

Another islandwide outage

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A problem in one of the power engines at Power Plant 1 in Lower Base plunged the entire island of Saipan into darkness Thursday night, just two days after over 200 people vented their frustrations with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. at a public forum.

The islandwide outage began at 7pm just as CUC was implementing its regular 8am to 10pm rolling outage schedule.

Although some areas got back their electric power Thursday at 10pm, many

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Rising no. of NMI women choosing not to breastfeed

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Health's Women, Infants, and Children Program reports that more and more Commonwealth mothers are choosing not to breastfeed their children.

According to WIC's breastfeeding statistics, 675 infants from 0 to 12 months are fully formula fed, while 33 infants are partially breastfed. Only 70 infants are fully breastfed.

"It is a big community issue and more so now because many women don't do it because of work, or because it's more convenient [to bottle feed], or other

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WALKING TALL

A mother and daughter spend their late afternoon walking along the Beach Road pathway in Garapan.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Local

Saipan Chamber backs smoking ban bill but...

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
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BUSINESS EDITOR

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is backing CNMI House legislation designed to ban smoking in local restaurants, but is urging lawmakers to adopt a host of amendments providing relief for hotels and restaurants attached to bars.

The legislation, H.B. 16-47, introduced by Rep. Justo Quitugua, was the focus of several recent CNMI House Health Education and Welfare Committee hearings on Saipan, Tinian and Rota. House lawmakers will debate the bill in a committee meeting Tuesday.

Several Saipan restaurants such as Shirley's, Tony Roma's and Capricciosa have already enacted smoking bans in anticipation of the bill. However, as seen in a recent customer survey at Shirley's, the proposed ban has seen some opposition from patrons who prefer having freedom to light up where they choose.

In a letter to committee chair Ralph DLG Torres June 16, the Chamber "offers its qualified support" for the bill but also presents the committee with a series of proposed amendments.

Chief among the Chamber's requested changes is the inclusion of language that would distinguish a normal bar from an "attached bar" which also operates as a restaurant during lunch and dinnertime hours. The Chamber asks the committee to "consider proposing an amendment that would subject such establishments" to a general ban on smoking but "allow those businesses the option of an exemption" from the ban at either a predetermined time when their kitchens close after 10pm.

Additionally, the Chamber takes issue with a prohibition in the bill on smoking within 25 feet of an establishment where a ban is in place. "This prohibition would effectively ban smoking on most public streets in Garapan," the letter notes, adding that the amount of secondhand smoke reaching diners in smoke-free establishments from outside "would be *de minimis*" and asking the committee to remove the language.

On smoking in hotels, the Chamber's letter urges the committee to remove language placing a 20-percent limit on the number of rooms in a hotel where the owners permit smoking.

"We believe market forces should dictate the number of hotel rooms designated as non-smoking," the letter says.

Torres in an interview Friday said this weekend he and his staff will consider all the comments the committee has received.

"Overall, I've had so much positive support from the committee for the bill's passage," he said.

SPLASH-DOWN Donavin and Peyten Lizama splash water on each other as they spend their summer vacation in the lagoon on Beach Road Garapan Thursday afternoon. JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

NMI farmers, ranchers urged to take part in FSA County Committee polls

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN
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REPORTER

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency is calling on all CNMI farmers and ranchers to take part in the annual FSA County Committee election.

"Our main goal is to have as many eligible candidates nominated to serve on FSA county committees as possible. We want to encourage everyone to get involved," said Guam FSA County executive director Thomas Camacho. "This year, we hope you'll consider nominating a farmer or rancher you know will make a real difference in his or her community."

Individuals may nominate themselves or others as candidate. Nominations and elections are open to all eligible candidates and voters without regard to race, color, religion, nation, age, sex, marital status, or disability. The nomination form is available at the USDA Service Center or online at wwww.fsa.usda.gov, click on News & Events then County Committee Elections.

Producers are encouraged to keep in mind the dates of upcoming county committee elections. Producers can request, fill out and submit nomination form from June 15 to Aug. 1. Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by Nov. 3. The deadline to return ballots to the FSA is Dec. 1. Newly elected committee members and alternates will take office Jan. 1, 2009.

"Committees apply their judgment and knowledge to make decisions on establishment of allotments and yields, conservation programs, disaster programs, employment and other farm program-related issues," Camacho said.

County committees are composed of three to five elected members from local administrative areas, each member serving a three-year term.

Saipan Municipal Council member Ramon B. Camacho currently chairs the CNMI chapter of the FSA.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JOB TITLE : **LOAN MANAGER**
JVA# : AD002-2008 CLOSING DATE : JUNE 30, 2008

OVERVIEW
Responsible for the overall credit administration of the branches. Manages the loan portfolio to minimize loss exposure.

Essentials Duties and Responsibilities include the following. Other duties may be assigned.

- Directs and coordinates loan activities to implement bank policies, procedures, and lending practices concerning granting of commercial, real estate, and consumer loans.
- Directs activities of staff performing such functions as loan processing, loan collection, and loan approval process.
- Establishes procedures for the Bank's loan portfolio, such as safekeeping of loan documentation and collateral.
- Examine and evaluate all commercial, real estate, and consumer loan request and ensure that underwriting fall within the Bank's loan policy.
- Evaluates the Bank's loan portfolio. Prepares and develops procedures to increase loan profitability.
- Ensures the customer lending needs are adequately determined and their credit needs are met to produce positive results.

QUALIFICATION
Minimum requirement. BA degree in Business Administration from accredited academic institution or equivalent. The equivalent is equal to five years work experience in lending.

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Adventure Guides Wanted

Marianas Trekking is hiring part time and full time guides to lead tourists on organized adventures. Applicants should be physically fit, able to bike, swim, kayak, and hike. Must be responsible, friendly, and outgoing. Japanese Language skills and Life Guarding skills a plus but we will train the right person. Apply in person between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon at the Marianas Trekking Adventure Center at the Mariana Resort and Spa.

Call 323-8735 for more information.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

DIRECTOR OF COURTS
CNMI JUDICIAL BRANCH

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Supreme Court announces the position of Director of Courts for the CNMI Judicial Branch.

NATURE OF WORK: This position will be the executive head of the administrative division of the CNMI Judicial Branch and will work under the general and immediate supervision of the Chief Justice of the CNMI Supreme Court. The Director of Courts will have direct management and supervision over the clerical, professional and other support personnel with the exception of the Justices, Judges, and their Law Clerks and Secretaries. The Director will be responsible for planning, directing and supervising staff of the CNMI Judicial Branch in the areas of administration including personnel and fiscal management, budget analysis and preparation, procurement, contract negotiations, programs and project development, public relations, and related work.

QUALIFICATIONS: The Director should hold an advanced degree from an accredited United States institution and a minimum of a bachelor's degree with five years managerial/supervisory experience. Preference will be given to an applicant who has knowledge of the principles of government budgetary processes, personnel management, contract procedures, and the political processes.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This is an ungraded position appointed and served at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. Salary will be negotiable.

INTERESTED PERSONS should send their resume and current application to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Honorable Miguel S. Demapan at the Guma' Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice, Susupe, Saipan. For additional information about this position, call (670) 236-9708. Resume and application must be received by 12:00 noon on June 30, 2008.

Ladera International School of Saipan
LISS

Ladera International School of Saipan
is seeking for team player and motivated teachers

Position : **Classroom Teacher**

Minimum Requirements: Degree from accredited university with a BA in an education-related major.

Salary : Varies based upon education and experience

Please submit your resume with recent picture to lissilc @yahoo.com.

LISS will be holding its 2nd Summer School Program for SY2007-2008 open to all Elementary students.

First Session, June 9 to July 4, 2008
Second Session, July 7 to August 1, 2008

Time: 7:30am to 2:20pm (Mondays thru Fridays)

Other Summer Programs includes school wide:
Educational Weekend Activities • Leadership Program
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Said program will focus on academic subjects.
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Northern Mariana Islands RETIREMENT FUND

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC, Division 9, §9910, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees/Workers' Compensation Commission/Group Health & Life Insurance Trust Fund, are hereby giving notice that the Board of Trustees will hold its Regular meeting on Tuesday, June 24, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the NMI Retirement Fund Conference Room, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda
D. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting:
1. April 24, 2008
2. May 21, 2008
3. May 22, 2008

II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

III. **REPORTS**
A, Report of the Chairman
1. ROC No. 08-008
B. Report of the Administrator / Correspondence
1. ROA No. 08-008
C. Report of the Comptroller
1. Financials
a) NMIRF b) GHLITF c) WCC
D. Reports of the Committees
1. Finance & Investment Committee
2. Operations & Personnel Committee
3. Policies, Programs & Legislative Review Committee
4. GH&L and WCC Committee
E. Reports of the Investment Director
1. Status of Investment/Market Condition
2. Report of Housing Loan Program
F. Communications
1. DB to DC Plan Transfer Act of 2008
G. Other Matters

IV. **LEGAL MATTERS**
A. Reports of the Legal Counsels
1. Report of the Board Counsel
a) Lawsuit
2. Report of the In-house Counsel
a) Update on Administrative Appeals
3. Report of the Hearing Officer

V. **OLD BUSINESS**
1. BR 08-001 Matters
a) Pension Application Matters b) P.L. 15-98 c) Disability Applicants
2. DC Plan Update Report
3. Rota and Tinian office space
4. RFP 08-046 – Wrap Fee
5. Status of Internal Auditor/Team
6. Update Report on Pension Software and Laserfiche

VI. **NEW BUSINESS**
1. Drawdown Request
a) May 22, 2008 b) June 06, 2008
2. Adoption and Certification of Fund Proposed Amendments (CR 30-05, 05/27/08)
3. Fund Proposed Amendments regarding Refund of Contributions and Interest
4. Administrator's Contract
5. NMIRF Office Proposal
6. Life Insurance RFP GH08-051
7. PSS – 11% rate
8. Committee Reappointment
9. Board Assistant Position

VII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

VIII. **MISCELLANEOUS**
A. AnnouncementsB. Next Meeting C. Adjournment

/s/ JUAN T. GUERRERO
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Fund supports bond to settle CNMI govt's debt

By AGNES E. DONATO
agnes_donato@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund has favored a proposal to allow the CNMI government to borrow whatever amount is needed to pay its debt to the pension agency.

The House of Representatives is currently considering two separate legislative initiatives for a pension obligation bond. One version, proposed by Rep. Heinz Hofschneider, calls for a $200-million debt to pay the government's pension obligation. Another proposal, sponsored by Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero, does not set a specific dollar amount, stating only that the bond must not exceed what the government owes the Retirement Fund.

Mark Aguon, administrator of the NMI Retirement Fund, said the agency supports the second proposal because it "foresightedly leaves the amount necessary to be issued open."

According to the Retirement Fund, as of Sept. 30, 2007, the CNMI government owed the pension program $132 million in employer contributions, excluding penalties and interest.

Aguon said that interest and penalties continue to accumulate. He added that the principal obligation itself continues to accrue because the government has not been able to pay any amount of the required biweekly payments.

He added that Deleon Guerrero's proposal is good because it specifies where the proceeds of the bonds are to be deposited, thus removing any possibility of the money being diverted to other purposes.

While Hofschneider's proposal also addresses the government's obligation to Retirement Fund, the proposed $200-million may be insufficient by the time the initiative becomes law, Aguon said.

He also commended Hofschneider's proposal to gradually reduce the number of government employees until personnel costs are brought down to 60 percent of the government's budget.

Currently, personnel costs comprise about 75 percent to 80 percent of the government's total budget.

"This is an interesting and comprehensive concept. Essentially, it caps the government's labor cost at 60 percent. Personnel costs are the root of the problem with the accumulation of annual deficit. This provision reduces this carryover effect over time. The Fund supports the general idea of this proposition, yet is more specifically interested in the (cap provision)," Aguon said.

Hofschneider's initiative also proposes to prohibit the Legislature from adding on benefits until the pension program is fully funded.

Legislative initiatives have to be passed by the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members of each house present and voting. The governor cannot veto legislative initiatives, which are proposals to amend the Constitution. Once passed by the Legislature, initiatives are placed on the ballot for ratification.

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Guilty plea in sex abuse of a minor

A 20-year-old man who was accused of sexually abusing a 14-year-old girl on at least five occasions entered a guilty plea yesterday.

Kirk Manalo Palacios pleaded guilty to sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo sentenced Palacios to five years of imprisonment, all suspended except for a term of between three and 12 months, without the possibility of parole.

Govendo, however, said he will determine the term of imprisonment within the 3 months to 12 months after a review of the Office of Adult Probation's pre-sentence report.

The judge set the sentencing hearing for Oct. 2, 2008 at 9am.

Palacios was placed on five years probation and required to pay a $500 fine, probation service fee to be determined later, and $25 in court assessment fee.

Govendo ordered the defendant to perform 300 hours of community service and register as a sex offender.

He prohibited Palacios from possessing or consuming alcoholic beverages during the period of probation.

In January 2007, the Attorney General's Office charged Palacios with five counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree.

The defendant and counsel assistant public defender Richard Miller signed a plea agreement with the government, represented by assistant attorney general Joseph Taijeron.

Palacios pleaded guilty to only one count. The remaining charges were dismissed pursuant to the plea agreement.

According to the plea agreement, on or between April 10, 2007 and June 12, 2007, Palacios, at that time 19 years old, sexually abused a 14-year-old girl.

According to a police report, the girl told authorities that she had sexual intercourse with Palacios five times between April to June 2007.

She said the defendant would enter her house through the back window. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

NMC, CDA host free Excel workshop

The Northern Marianas College, in collaboration with the Commonwealth Development Authority, will be hosting a free Time Management Workshop on June 26, from 8am to 12pm at Building W at the NMC Campus in As Terlaje. Facilitating this free workshop will be Wilhelm Maui, a computer applications and economics instructor at the college.

This workshop will provide participants with the skills to develop basic financial projections using Microsoft Excel. This workshop will be particularly useful for individuals who plan to develop a business plan and submit a loan proposal to a financial institution or investor to either start or expand a business.

This workshop is an ideal supplement to the "How to Develop a Business Plan" workshop. While learning a basic format to develop financial projections, the participants will also learn how to use the basic features of MS Excel.

Those who wish to register or find out more information can contact Loly Kingzio at 234-5498 ext. 1210 or by emailing Eric Plinske at ericp@nmcnet.edu. ***(NMC)***

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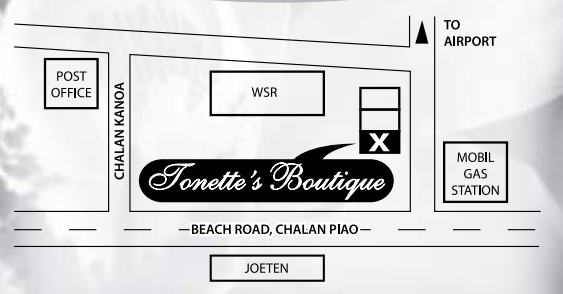

As Perdido, Saipan • 235-4823

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CHRISTIONICA A. TAISACAN CHRISTAL A. TAISACAN, BERNEILA A. TAISACAN NEIL A. TAISACAN JR., JULVONNIE A. TAISACAN (Minor Children)	)	CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-0384 SUMMONS
NEIL TAISACAN AND BERTHA TAISACAN, VINCENT CABRERA Plaintiffs, -v- WORLD CORPORATION dba SAIPAN WORLD RESORT, and OK-JOO JUN LIZAMA Defendants.	)	

TO: KAP SHIN CHUN

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the First Amended Complaint being filed against you, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons upon you, and deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the TORRES BROTHERS, LLC., Attorney at Law, whose address is stated above, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of Court at the Superior Court for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, in the House of Justice - Guma Hustisia Imwal Aweewe. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with the Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

BY ORDER OF THIS COURT.

Dated this 1 day Nov., 2007.

/s/ Clerk of Court
Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

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Hawaiian group demands restoration of monarchy

HONOLULU (AP)—Surrounded by royal guards and the occasional tourist, Her Majesty Mahealani Kahau and her government ministers hold court every day under a tent outside the palace of Hawaii's last monarch, passing laws and discussing how to secure reparations for the Native Hawaiian people.

Kahau and her followers are members of the self-proclaimed Hawaiian Kingdom Government, which is devoted to restoring the Hawaiian monarchy overthrown in 1893. Nearly two months ago, they stormed the gates of the old Iolani Palace, and they have politely occupied the grounds ever since, operating like a government-in-exile.

"We're here to assume and resume what is already ours and what has always been ours," said Kahau, who is a descendant of Hawaii's last king and was elected "head of state" by the group.

The Hawaiian Kingdom Government, which was founded seven years ago and claims 1,000 followers, uses its own license plates and maintains its own judicial system. In recent years, members have voted to dissolve the state of Hawaii, its land titles, welfare programs and public schools. They also claim the right to confiscate all bank assets in Hawaii.

The organization's actions do not carry the force of law, and the state has mostly taken a hands-off approach. It has not confiscated any of the license plates, for example, or arrested anyone for using them.

Hawaii has about 200,000 Native Hawaiians out of a population of 1.3 million. The Hawaiian Kingdom Government is just one of several native organizations that claim sovereignty over the islands, tapping into a strong sense among Native Hawaiians that they were wronged by history.

AP

In this April 30, 2008 file photo, a sign is posted on the gate of the Iolani Palace in Honolulu.

More than a century ago, a group of sugar planters and other businessmen, most of them Americans, overthrew the Hawaiian monarchy with the support of U.S. military forces. Queen Liliuokalani was imprisoned at the ornate Iolani Palace, built in 1882 by her brother, King Kalakaua. Hawaii was annexed by the United States in 1898 and became a state in 1959.

"We are definitely trying to correct a wrong that we feel has been done to us as a people," said Hawaiian Kingdom Government spokesman Orrin Kupau.

On April 30, members of the Hawaiian Kingdom Government trooped onto the palace grounds in the heart of Honolulu and shut the gates behind them, leading to a few tense hours before they finally reopened the entrance.

Every day, Kahau and about a dozen of her government officials meet in the tent. Every evening they fold up their tent and go home, returning in the morning.

State officials have largely ignored them, and police have made no arrests. The Hawaiian Kingdom Government has said it has no intention of resorting to violence.

Every week, the Hawaiian Kingdom Government obtains a public-assembly permit that allows it to occupy the grounds of the palace, a museum and popular tourist attraction next door to the state Capitol.

As far as the state is concerned, the Hawaiian Kingdom Government is treated the same as any other group that wants to conduct activities on public ground, said Deborah Ward, spokeswoman for the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

"As long as they comply with the permit conditions, they may continue to request permits to meet," she said.

Those conditions prohibit the Hawaiian Kingdom Government from interfering with access to the palace, harassing pedestrians, collecting money, posting banners or entering several government buildings. State authorities gave Kahau a warning when she went inside one of the buildings to collect her mail.

It is unclear how the organization's members intend to oust the state government. They also want reparations in the form of housing, low-cost health care and cash. The kingdom slapped a $7 trillion fine on the Hawaii state government in 2007.

A professor of international law who favors Hawaiian independence, Francis Boyle, said he believes the Hawaiian Kingdom Government has a valid claim.

"The essence of sovereignty under international law is people living on their land and asserting their rights, and that's what the Native Hawaiians are doing. They've made a lot of progress," said Boyle, a professor at the University of Illinois. "This is the way to go."

Will THS principal position be announced if it becomes vacant?

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN
rianne_pangelinan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

That is the question that has been bugging some Tinian residents, who want to know if the position will be publicly announced or would a political appointment be made.

Board of Education chairwoman Lucy Blanco-Maratita assured, though, that should the post become vacant, an announcement would be made and the decision of who to hire will rest with the education commissioner and not the board.

A Tinian resident said that island residents have not been officially told if Tinian High School principal Florine Hofschneider still and will remain the school's principal in the upcoming school year. The residents have reportedly been told, unofficially as well, that Eric San Nicolas, nephew of Tinan Mayor Joseph San Nicolas, is now serving as the acting principal.

"He is a very bright young man, but not qualified. There are many qualified people who would like to be principal of Tinian High School and the parents and students want a fully qualified principal this time," the resident said.

Saipan Tribune called the Tinian High School to get Hofschneiders' comments. Her reply: "I have no plans right now to share with anybody," she said briefly before ending the call.

Blanco-Maratita said that she is "not aware that the current THS principal is stepping down. …The board also wants someone who is qualified; thus the reason for requiring certain qualifications of principals."

PEST MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Farmers and ranchers listen to the speaker during the Integrated Pest Management Workshop hosted by the Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Service in collaboration with the Western Sustainable Agricultural Research and Education Grant Opportunity at the NMC campus Wednesday.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

FREEDOM

From Page 1

airline's Tinian-to-Rota route, now up $58 to $229, and on tickets for flying from Tinian to Guam, up $69 to $261.

Aviation fuel costs, shipping charges and skyrocketing automobile gas prices over the last several years have put the airline in a tough financial situation, according to general manager Joaquim Flores.

"9-11 really impacted us and it just snowballed from there," Flores said in an interview Friday. "The price of everything has gone up."

For example, Flores noted higher shipping costs have put a severe squeeze on the airline because its aviation fuel must be shipped from Australia at a cost of $29,000 every two weeks.

Mounting insurance costs for airline and an array of other added costs have also drained the airline's funds.

"It's the just cost of doing business here," said Flores.

ANOTHER

From Page 1

people had a sleepless night as CUC managed to completely restore power only yesterday at 7am.

CUC acting power division manager Gary P. Camacho said that on Thursday at 7pm, an electrical fault on the jacket cooling water motor occurred, causing Engine No. 6 and Station Service no. 3 in Power Plant 1 to automatically trip.

As the power plant crew attempted to balance the power load, the remaining station services also tripped, Camacho said.

This immediate loss of power generation in Power Plant 1 overloaded the Power Plant 4 engines in Puerto Rico, causing the breakers at Power Plant 4 to open, resulting in the islandwide blackout.

Camacho said the restoration process began with the first partial of Feeder 3 or the Middle Road area from Power Plant 4, which back feeds into the main Power Plant 1. He said it was not until 10pm that the first feeder on Middle Road was energized.

Engine No. 6 at Power Plant 1 was only brought back online at 6:18am yesterday.

In addition, Camacho said, the controls of Engine No. 3 in Power Plant 1 had electrical and mechanical malfunctions that required immediate replacement.

"It was brought online this morning [Friday] at 7am, which provided the additional generation required to complete the restoration process," he added.

Some restaurants with generators were seen filled with customers as families and workers had no time to cook. Also, the humid temperature and uncomfortable heat inside their houses drove families to flock to establishments with power.

Last May 29, overheated engines in Power Plant 1 also triggered an islandwide outage on the island. On Jan. 28, delays in fuel delivery at two power plants triggered sudden rotating outages throughout the island.

RISING

From Page 1

physiological issues," said Deputy Secretary Lynn Tenorio in an interview.

According to Tenorio, DPH conducted its own study on the effects of breastfeeding and "we were able to show that breastfeeding your children longer had a positive effect on reducing the risk of your child being overweight or obese."

"Yes, there are a number of studies and research that say and prove that, but we were able to prove it here as well," she said.

Tenorio said that in its study, DPH found that children in the CNMI who have healthier weights were breastfed as infants. "And we were able to prove that. That it works."

In its efforts to promote breastfeeding in the CNMI, DPH Labor & Delivery does not provide bottles and infant formulas but instead encourage mothers to practice breastfeeding during their stay at the hospital.

Further, the CNMI WIC program has sent two WIC staff abroad to become breastfeeding consultants.

"Everybody needs to understand the health benefits of it and that it is the only natural way of feeding and the best way," Tenorio said.

She added that DPH is currently working on creating a pumping room for breastfeeding mothers, should they need to pump or breastfeed their children privately.

"We want to establish an area that is clean and quiet for them. And we're hoping that once we do it, everyone will too," Tenorio said.

"It is so much easier [for mothers to feed their infants formula or to start them on solid foods before 12 months] although that's more expensive. But it [breastfeeding] is something that needs to be culturally accepted again," she adds.

The WIC program offers free breast pumps to mothers who choose to breastfeed their mothers, "but many women still choose not to do it because of work and convenience," said Tenorio.

Medical studies say breastfeeding babies reduces their risk of getting overweight and sudden infant death syndrome, builds babies' immune system, and better neurological development, among other benefits.

'ConCon better than piecemeal charter changes'

By AGNES E. DONATO
agnes_donato@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A lawmaker says the Commonwealth should consider holding a constitutional convention instead of amending the Constitution on a piecemeal basis.

Rep. Rosemond B. Santos has sponsored a resolution to place the question of holding a constitutional convention on the ballot for the next general election.

Santos, who chairs the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations, said it is a better approach than having voters decide one by one on the many initiatives that have been proposed in the Legislature.

Currently, members of the 16th Legislature have introduced a total of 25 initiatives.

Santos said this number indicates that the Constitution is in need of change.

The Constitution states that the Legislature should submit the question of calling a constitutional convention to the voters every 10 years. The last constitutional convention was held in 1995.

"[A constitutional convention] will allow for greater discussion and thorough review of all proposed changes to the Constitution. The people will be better informed about each initiative through this deliberative process," the House JGO Committee said in a report on the resolution.

"Amending the Constitution through legislative initiatives and popular initiatives is feasible when the proposed changes are nominal. However, with all the proposed changes being submitted, it would be more prudent and more beneficial to have representatives at a constitutional convention whose sole duty will be to focus on the Constitution amendments," the report said.

The House JGO Committee also said the government could save money by holding a constitutional convention, instead of amending the Constitution through the initiative route.

The Commonwealth Election Commission has recently asked for $25,000 for public education for one initiative alone.

Tinian govt on budget: It wants more

The Tinian government says it needs nearly $2 million more than what the Fitial administration has proposed for the island to keep up with its expected economic growth.

Tinian has asked the Legislature for a budget of $8.5 million, an increase from the $6.8 million proposed by the administration.

"This municipality is in the unique position of having to provide service to a rapidly growing population and economy over the next year," said Tinian Mayor Jose P. San Nicolas.

He noted that the Bridge Investment Group is set to begin constructing its $50-million casino project this month. Another investor, Matua Resort Development Company, has started the permitting process for its golf course and casino project.

San Nicolas added that the projected influx of international flights to Tinian and the planned construction of a "warm base" for the military on the island would require the municipal government to beef up enforcement efforts.

The mayor proposes to spend $6.88 million on personnel costs and nearly $500,000 on utility costs. His budget proposal also includes $1 million to be spent on operational costs at the discretion of the mayor.

The mayor's submission provides for 290 full time employees. The proposed budget will allow the government to suspend payment for legal holidays and to shut down municipal offices every other Friday. The unpaid holidays and the so-called "austerity Fridays" are expected to save the government some $600,000 on Tinian. ***(Agnes E. Donato)***

Continental, United join to fight rising fuel costs

DALLAS (AP)—Continental and United Airlines, which failed to complete talks this spring to become a single carrier, said Thursday they would work together in an alliance they hope will boost revenue to offset rising fuel costs.

Shares of both airlines rose by double-digit percentages in afternoon trading.

In striking a deal with United, Continental ended alliance negotiations with American Airlines, the nation's biggest carrier, and British Airways.

Under alliances, airlines typically work together to sell tickets on each other's flights, which can result in increased revenue.

Alliances are easier to put together than mergers, which can run into opposition from labor unions or regulators.

But alliances have their limits. Without antitrust immunity from regulators, airlines are barred from working together on prices and schedules. And airlines that merge can shed overlapping routes, planes and workers.

Continental said it would seek antitrust immunity from the Transportation Department to form joint ventures on trans-Atlantic flying with United and Lufthansa, and eventually on flights to Latin America and Asia.

But in the U.S., the Continental-United deal will be limited to code-sharing—selling tickets on each other's flights and offering reciprocal frequent-flier and airport-lounge programs.

Continental and United said they also hope to reduce costs by working together. Airlines have reduced capacity and raised fares and fees as fuel costs surged.

Continental Airlines Inc. and UAL Corp.'s United Airlines said they will link their networks and join the Star Alliance, one of three competing teams of airlines around the world.

Continental will leave the SkyTeam alliance, which includes Delta Air Lines Inc. and the carrier Delta plans to buy, Northwest Airlines Corp.

American, a unit of AMR Corp., and British Airways tried to lure Continental to its team, called oneworld. But the move grew less likely as Continental resumed its flirtation with United.

"We are still talking to BA," said Tim Wagner, a spokesman for American Airlines. "This doesn't have any effect on that."

Earlier this year, Continental and United were in advanced talks to become a single carrier. But Continental walked away from the deal after UAL reported a huge loss for the first quarter. Continental Chief Executive Lawrence Kellner said the Houston-based carrier preferred to remain independent.

Kellner said Thursday that as the industry faces "some of the most challenging conditions airlines have ever faced," linking with another carrier gives Continental a larger network with expanded global reach and new ways of cost reductions.

United CEO Glenn Tilton said Continental, which has a valuable hub in Newark, N.J., serving New York, would be a boost to the Star Alliance and improve the two carriers' U.S. network.

"This is the right time for this move," Tilton said in a message to employees. "Our industry is under tremendous pressure due to today's record high fuel prices. We need to be creative in finding ways to increase our revenue and reduce our costs."

Kellner and Tilton were meeting Thursday in Chicago to complete the alliance agreement.

Continental shares rose $2.22, or 16.5 percent, to $15.68 in afternoon trading, and UAL shares added $1.38, or 21.1 percent, at $7.93.

STAGEHANDS JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ
Saipan Mayors Office staff work on building the stage Thursday in preparation for the annual Liberation Day Parade that will be held on July 4.

Message of Appreciation

From the family of the late

†MICHIYO EVANGELINA NAKANISHI MANALILI

We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude and appreciation to all our families and friends for your prayers and support in celebration of our beloved's First Death Anniversary.

Your presence and prayers at the daily Eucharistic Celebration have comforted us as we remember a very special person in our lives. We will keep you all in our hearts, our thoughts, and most especially in our prayers, and may God bless us all.

Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'ase,
Maraming Salamat Po,
Domo Arigato.

Jorge M. Manalili
Agnes & Beda Malazarte
Tita & Mario Macadaeg
Robert & Chie Manalili
Ed Manalili & Lily Dlg. Aldan
Tessie & Leo Duenas

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

That's classified

Knowledge is power. But in government, if knowledge isn't shared between agencies and with others to whom the information could be vital, the consequences can be—and have been—deadly. The Sept. 11 commission report cited a lack of information-sharing as a contributing factor to the horrific events of that day in 2001. Nearly seven years later, the commission's recommendation for the creation of a "trusted information network" is finally getting some traction, with significant steps taken by the White House and comparable moves in Congress.

The problem centers on what is known as "sensitive but unclassified" (SBU) information. There are no rules for what can or must be given that designation. As a result, different agencies have different standards for when to keep material within their walls. Former ambassador Ted McNamara, who was directed by President Bush last year to come up with recommendations for creating a standard SBU framework, said in testimony before Congress that a survey of 20 departments and agencies found 107 "unique markings" and more than 131 labeling or handling processes and procedures for SBU information. This has led to the reclassification of some archived records that had been public for years. Even more disturbing, the barriers prevent information from flowing to state and local law enforcement agencies. That's untenable in a post-Sept. 11 world.

Mr. McNamara proposed a "controlled unclassified information" (CUI) system that would institute a single standard for all agencies. On May 7, Mr. Bush issued the long-awaited framework establishing three CUI categories and giving the National Archives five years to create and implement policies. Meanwhile, Rep. Jane Harman, D-Calif., shepherded two bills through her subcommittee on intelligence, information sharing and terrorism risk assessment that would reduce the overclassification of records and codify the CUI for the Department of Homeland Security.

In decrying the current hodgepodge system, Thomas H. Kean, co-chairman of the Sept. 11 commission and a former New Jersey governor, has said, "The best ally we have in protecting ourselves against terrorism is an informed public." The CUI proposed by Mr. Bush will strengthen that bulwark.

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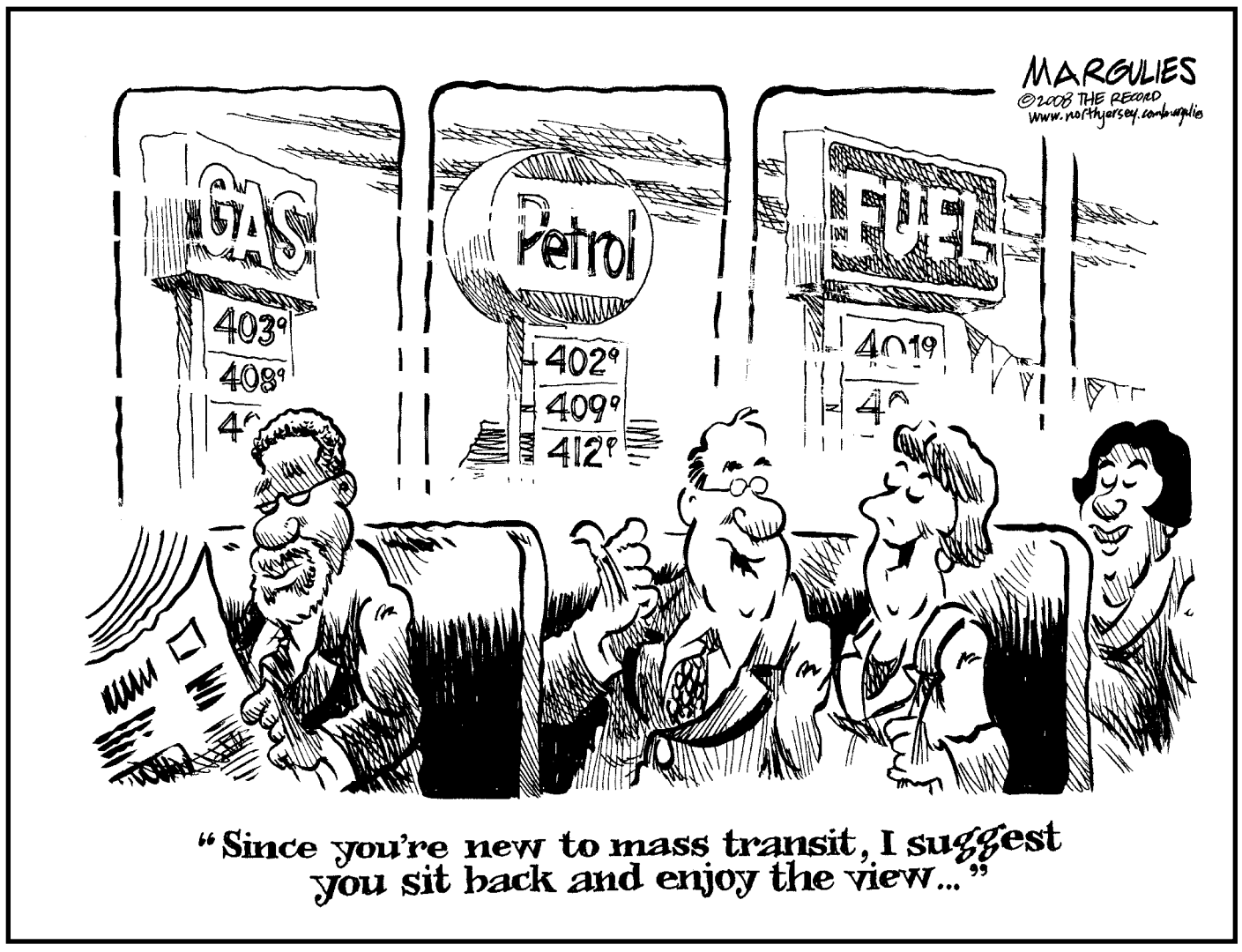

Who'll lead in Asia?

By KIM HOLMES and WALTER LOHMAN
SPECIAL TO THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

Occasionally, a simple remark reveals far more about the state of American leadership than any speech, policy statement or white paper. During an official visit to Beijing in late May by Lee Myung-bak, the new South Korean president and stalwart American friend, China's foreign ministry declared the U.S.-South Korea alliance a "historical relic."

Americans need to wake up to the challenge of leadership and start fighting for it in Asia. That the Chinese are testing one of our closest relationships shows that if we cannot step up, Asia may well make plans for its future without us.

The U.S. government, from the president on down, strains to plead our long-term interests and staying power in Asia. Why is Asia not buying it?

It's partly because of great changes occurring there, including the rise of China and the maturation of our once-dependent allies. It's also because of incoherence in our strategic vision. And frankly, it's about style. When we alternate between "taking charge" and acting detached, we leave our friends questioning our commitment level.

> China is massively increasing its military spending and modernizing its weapons. It is expanding land, sea, air and space capabilities. It holds unremitting territorial claims on its neighbors Japan, Taiwan and India and in the South China Sea. It is pursuing close and unapologetic relations with the world's most odious regimes. And it doggedly adheres to one-party authoritarian rule at home.

Thanks mostly to generations of soldiers, sailors and airmen, our alliances in Asia give us a head start on the competition. Allies Japan and South Korea are now powerful democracies. The Philippines and Thailand also have become capable members of the alliance family. Australia—having fought beside us in every conflict of the 20th century—has proved a most reliable friend.

We also have friends beyond our treaty allies. Taiwan is a natural security partner. Every day it demonstrates the relevance of democracy to the lives of Chinese people. Indonesia, an enormous and diverse nation, is making an inspiring effort to address its problems with the consent of the governed. Malaysia's democracy is newly robust. Singapore comes as close as we can get to a security alliance without a treaty. And we can occasionally depend on others out of shared interests, if not the bedrock of shared republican values.

In short, the American vision of a free, prosperous and secure Asia is widely shared. Where the burden of leadership gets tricky is how we address the principal challenge: China's emergence as a major global power. All the players in Asia, including the U.S., have real interests at stake in their relations with China. But China, as currently governed, is on a trajectory to threaten the freedom, security and, one day, the prosperity of Asia.

We ought not fear saying this out loud.

China is massively increasing its military spending and modernizing its weapons. It is expanding land, sea, air and space capabilities. It holds unremitting territorial claims on its neighbors Japan, Taiwan and India and in the South China Sea. It is pursuing close and unapologetic relations with the world's most odious regimes. And it doggedly adheres to one-party authoritarian rule at home. It's hard to see how it can be a responsible stakeholder in the international system.

We need to rethink our "hedging" strategy—relying on China to choose democratic reform and peaceful entry into the international system while we plan for alternative scenarios. What we are hedging against—the rise of a powerful, undemocratic strategic competitor—is coming to pass. Our rote appeal for transparency has become a way of not believing our own eyes.

Yes, we can partner with China on common interests, but we cannot conceive of it broadly as a "strategic partner." The gulf between its value systems and objectives and ours is too great. To miss this distinction is to facilitate China's leadership rather than assert our own.

As for style, we require a diplomacy that takes into account the realities of today's Asia. U.S. leadership can no longer see our friends and allies as followers but as full partners. They too are worried about China. But they are also worried about our approach. We cannot allow our leadership to be framed as a choice between American-led security and Chinese-fed prosperity.

It will take time for us to build trust in a new leadership model. It will mean a long-term, multi-administration focus on regional priorities and diplomatic initiatives. It may mean new institutions, such as a global freedom alliance, that supplement the tools currently at our diplomatic disposal. We can manage it, but only with the strategic coherence that comes with accurately defining the challenge.

An Asia without our leadership would be bad for the U.S., but it also would be unfortunate for Asia. The U.S. remains the Asia Pacific's indispensable power. We must lead like it.

Holmes is a vice president of the Heritage Foundation and the author of Liberty's Best Hope: American Leadership for the 21st Century. *Lohman is director of the Asian Studies Center at the Heritage Foundation.*

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Global citizens are rootless to a fault

By GREGORY RODRIGUEZ
SPECIAL TO THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

In the 20th century, the color line was the primary challenge. In the 21st century, the problem is the border line.

Today, more people live outside their countries of birth than at any time in history, and international migrants now make up the equivalent of the world's fifth most-populous country—just after China, India, the United States and Indonesia.

As a result, migrant-receiving nations, particularly those in the First World, are scrambling to devise strategies to incorporate and integrate newcomers and their families into their adopted societies.

From Germany to the United States, policymakers and the public alike are particularly worried about integrating the poorest immigrants into their social fabrics. It is commonly assumed that socioeconomic mobility is the key to making these newcomers loyal citizens of their new homelands.

But what about the transnational elites who can easily move anywhere they please? In May, American actress Susan Sarandon vowed to move to Italy or Canada if Republican Sen. John McCain becomes president. However off the cuff her comment might have been, it points to the challenge many developed nations and cities are likely to have maintaining the loyalty of their elites as a globalizing economy makes relocation easier.

More than a decade ago, in a posthumously published book, *The Revolt of the Elites*, sociologist Christopher Lasch accused the creative class (the group Robert Reich, Clinton's Labor secretary, famously called "symbolic analysts") of abandoning their responsibility to serve as a moral bulwark and stabilizing force in society.

What he could not have foreseen, however, was the extent to which commercial and cultural globalization would further undermine the elites' old-fashioned loyalty to place.

Make no mistake: The benefits of globalization, especially high-level transnational exchange and trade, particularly to the United States, are clear.

In the U.S., highly skilled workers and wealthy entrepreneurs from around the globe contribute mightily to this nation's productivity and creativity. Their presence in our cities, and ours in theirs, has fostered a greater appreciation of global cultural diversity. It has spawned a vibrant cosmopolitanism that broadens our collective concern for people who live beyond our borders.

But this cosmopolitanism is not without its dark side. Increasingly, many of our big cities' creative elites—both native and foreign-born—see themselves as citizens of the world. Our intellectuals are exploring the declining significance of place in the new globalized world order. And this brave new world cries out for an answer to the question: Does a person who swears loyalty to all cities and nations have any loyalties at all?

I've always been struck by the fact that the same people who rightly criticize multinational corporations for having no sense of responsibility to place never seem to express the same concern about the equally "unplaced" creative elite.

A few years ago, I was at a fancy dinner party and found myself the only one at the table who held only one passport. (One couple added Canadian, or was it Irish, citizenship as an insurance policy in case their athlete daughter didn't make it onto the U.S. Olympic team.) Over the years, I've met way too many highly skilled expatriates who know little and care even less about the cities they live in. Just last week in northern California, I met an African-born Indian economist who said he moved to Washington from London to escape the British capital's rootlessness.

"It's everybody's second home," he told me. "No one is really tied to the place."

In May, Los Angeles Business Journal published a special report on Los Angeles becoming a magnet for what one analyst called "global families"—those who live and do business in Southern California and elsewhere. I wonder how much they know about the coalition-building that makes L.A. politics tick; I wonder what kind of local philanthropic activities they're involved in.

It's long been a sociological axiom that homeowners take better care of their houses and their neighborhoods than do renters. I think the same principle applies to cities and nations.

Without denying the benefits of globalization, we should remember the beauty and strength of parochialism.

It's all well and good to love the world, but real social solidarity is generally found on a smaller scale. And it's not just the unskilled immigrants we should be concerned about. We need to find ways to encourage the highly skilled ones to form a sense of attachment and commitment to their new homes. On top of that, we natives must remember that there is no honor in escaping engagement by becoming a citizen of the world.

For as much as globalization will continue to change the way we live, it probably will remain true (as quaint as it sounds) that home is where the heart is.

At least it should be.

Rodriguez, a columnist for the Times' *opinion pages, is director of the California Fellows Program at the New America Foundation and author of* Mongrels, Bastards, Orphans and Vagabonds: Mexican Immigration and the Future of Race in America. *E-mail him at grodriguez@latimescolumnists.com.*

Grief on the reef

By MARGARET WERTHEIM
SPECIAL TO THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

Silently and steadily, a tragedy is unfolding beneath the ocean's waves: Coral reefs around the world are disappearing. According to some projections, there could be few, if any, left by the end of the century.

This dire and credible prediction has shocked many marine scientists, who had not realized how close to the tipping point coral reefs are. The news is especially disheartening because 2008 is the International Year of the Reef.

The culprit here is carbon dioxide, the greenhouse gas that is responsible for global warming and that also is turning our oceans into an acid bath.

Remember your mother's warning that too much Coke would dissolve your teeth? Well, too much acid in the oceans prevents corals from growing their calciferous skeletons. In a December Science magazine article, researchers reported results of models in which they simulated the effects of carbon dioxide emissions over the next century. By 2050, the projections revealed, oceans will be too acidic for coral reefs to grow.

Why should we care if coral reefs continue to grow? After all, they cover only 0.1 percent of the Earth's surface. Unlike rain forests, they are tiny on a global scale.

In terms of biodiversity, however, coral reefs are the rain forests of the ocean. Reefs are home to between 1 million and 9 million species. Nobody knows the exact number, says Nancy Knowlton, a coral reef expert at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., because scientists have only just begun to seriously map marine biodiversity. That's one of the goals of the Census of Marine Life being conducted by a network of researchers from more than 50 nations. If reefs disappear, at least half the species that live on them also might go extinct, according to the Science article.

Here's the problem. When carbon dioxide enters the ocean, it reacts with water to form carbonic acid. A few other chemical steps ensue, with the outcome that fewer carbonate ions are available for biological systems. Corals are not the only organisms that suffer. All shell-forming marine creatures are adversely affected.

Taking a human analogy, it would be as if your bones could no longer keep growing.

We are seeing the effects of ocean acidification. Today, the concentration of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere is more than 380 parts per million. That's more than at any time during the last 20 million years.

About 25 percent of this carbon dioxide ends up being absorbed by the oceans. As carbon dioxide levels have risen during the industrial era, the average pH level in the ocean, an indicator of acidity, has dropped by 0.1 pH unit. (On the pH scale, a lower number means more acidic.) That might not sound like much, but evidence from Antarctic ice cores shows that the global average is lower than at any time over almost half a million years. As the Science article notes, changes in atmospheric carbon dioxide over the last century "are 2 or 3 orders of magnitude higher than most of the changes seen in the past 420,000 years."

Until recently, many ocean scientists had imagined that as global temperatures rise, corals might begin to adapt. But acidification is a far more serious problem to these inherently delicate organisms. Knowlton says that, "It's just not possible for organisms to adapt rapidly to such fundamental chemical changes in their environment." Imagine, by way of comparison, that you were suddenly told that instead of drinking water, you'd have to settle for Coke all the time.

The corrosive effects of acidification are evident in the Great Barrier Reef in the Coral Sea off Queensland, Australia. Here, massive porites coral have experienced a 20 percent drop in growth in the last 16 years.

The best-case scenario from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which tracks global warming, predicts that carbon dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere will rise to 450 ppm this century unless we change our consumption of fossil fuels quickly. Most models predict a rise to at least 500 ppm if we don't change our consumption habits. That will spell disaster for coral reefs.

Besides being enclaves of biodiversity, coral reefs perform other important functions. In Asia, coral reef-based fisheries provide one-quarter of the fish that help to feed a billion people. They are also critical mechanisms for protection throughout the Earth's tropical regions. Without coral reef barriers, coastal areas will become more vulnerable to the kind of devastation caused by hurricanes like Katrina.

Finally, many developing nations—especially in the Caribbean—rely on reef tourism as a crucial part of their economies.

Brainless, immobile and with only the most primitive nervous systems, coral polyps have built some of the most magnificent structures on our planet. They protect us, feed us and astound us with their beauty. Now they need our help—and time is running out.

Wertheim is the co-creator, with her sister Christine, of the Crochet Coral Reef Project, now showing in New York.

Letters to the Editor

Clarifying a misguided statement

Joe Cabrera's recent letter to the editor ("We don't want it," June 19) made several inaccurate and unfounded allegations. While it is not possible to address all of them in a brief letter, I want to set the record straight regarding one particularly misguided statement.

Should the Mariana Trench Marine National Monument be designated, the Pew Charitable Trusts will not have any role in its management. The Trusts is a private non-governmental organization. A national monument, if it were established, would be managed by the government.

We have been crystal clear from day one that the proposal for designating a protected area in the waters around the three northern islands is for discussion between the leaders of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and officials from the federal government. Our role is simply to educate the community on the opportunity offered by global recognition of our waters, including how a marine national monument would likely be managed, and what the potential benefits, and costs, are likely to be.

In this vein, we recently commissioned an economic study of the costs and benefits of a marine monument, authored by the highly regarded University of Guam economics professor, Dr. Tom Iverson. He was on Saipan this week with Dr. John Salas, also of the University of Guam, to discuss their initial findings and present their results to a wide range of organizations and individuals.

Mr. Cabrera has every right to oppose the creation of what would be the world's second largest protected reserve, but when he writes that the Pew Charitable Trusts would play a role in the management of the proposed marine national monument, he is simply wrong.

There is a lot of misinformation circulating around our community, which has frightened people unnecessarily. Instead of rumors, we need a rational discussion based on the scientific and economic merits of the idea. In assessing the opportunity the monument idea offers, our community deserves the facts, not fiction.

Angelo O'Connor Villagomez
Saipan Coordinator
Pew Environment Group

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Barry Wonenberg for being chosen to represent the CNMI in China. The honor could not have gone to a better artist or a finer man. Best of luck to you, Barry.

Don Farrell
Tinian

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers in the morning, then scattered showers in the afternoon. South winds 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. Southeast winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79	▲88° ▼79°

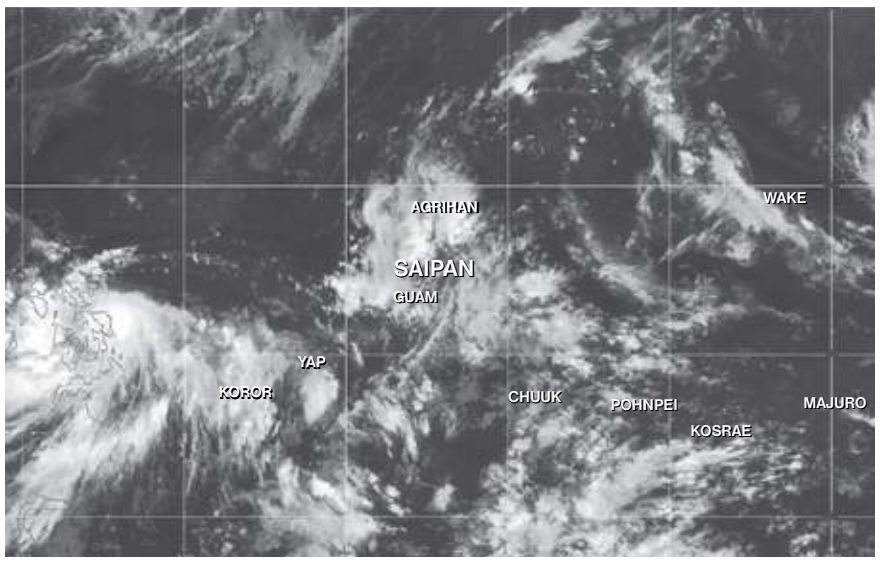
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Mostly Cloudy	▲86	▼77
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼77
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼73
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼77
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Cloudy	▲62	▼55
Beijing	Hot	▲97	▼73
Hong Kong	Partly Sunny	▲90	▼81
Honolulu	Showers	▲83	▼75
London	Rain	▲68	▼62
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲92	▼66
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼77
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲59	▼45
Miami	Thundershowers	▲90	▼78
New York	Cloudy	▲82	▼68
Osaka	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼71
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲75	▼65
Pusan	Rain	▲79	▼73
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼66
Salem	Cloudy	▲72	▼45
San Francisco	Sunny	▲67	▼51
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲89	▼68
Tokyo	Rain	▲73	▼71
Washington, DC	Cloudy	▲85	▼68

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2008
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level low is centered at 18N142E or about 400 miles northwest of Guam. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring west of the Marianas in an area bounded by 12N142E to 14N139E to 10N142E to 18N146E then back to 12N142E. This area covers all the islands north of Saipan. Divergence aloft is enhancing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near Wake Island within 70 miles of a line from 25N160E to 16N169E. A circulation is centered at 21N176E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found within 70 miles of a line from 16N174E to 21N178E and from 21N172E to 25N175E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with Typhoon Fengshen are found near Koror and Yap between 6N and 11N from 130E to 139E. Also between the equator and 2N from 135E to 141E. Scattered trade-wind showers are found south of Pohnpei and Chuuk between the equator and 7N from 150E to 160E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
3:39AM Today	Low Tide:	1.4 Feet
8:00AM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
3:37PM Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
10:54PM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:47AM	6:50 PM
Sunday	5:48AM	6:50 PM
Monday	5:48AM	6:50 PM
Tuesday	5:48AM	6:50 PM
Wednesday	5:49AM	6:50 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:55PM	7:37AM
Sunday	9:37PM	8:29AM
Monday	10:16PM	9:21AM
Tuesday	10:16PM	9:21AM
Wednesday	11:30PM	11:03AM

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- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2008

DEPARTURES

Saipan-Rota			
CO 9313	8:30am	9:05am	3,4,7
Saipan-Guam			
CO9317	4:00am	4:50am	Daily
CO9597	8:30am	9:20am	1,2,5,6
CO9313	8:30am	10:00am	3,4,7 via Rota
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	Daily
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily
Saipan-Narita			
NW 078	8:55am	2:00pm	Daily via Nagoya
NW 075	4:45pm	7:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Osaka			
NW 083	4:20pm	7:05pm	Daily
Saipan-Nagoya			
NW 078	8:55am	11:35am	Daily
Saipan-Manila			
CO 895	4:45pm	6:35pm	6
CO 895	6:45pm	8:35pm	3
Saipan-Seoul			
OZ 604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ 604	2:50am	6:30am	2,3,4,5,6,7
OZ 606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2,4,6,7
Saipan-Busan			
OZ 608	3:50am	7:20am	1,4,5,7
Guam-Manila			
CO 891	6:00am	10:30am	3 via Yap and Koror
CO 893	6:30am	8:05am	6
CO 893	8:25am	10:00am	2,7
CO 893	5:50pm	9:10pm	5 via Koror
CO 933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily
PR 111	6:00am	7:45am	1,2,4,6,7
Saipan-Guanzhou			
CZ 3008	5:00am	8:00am	2,6
Guam-Hongkong			
CO 909	6:40pm	9:25pm	1,5
Guam-Rota			
CO 9598	10:15am	10:45am	1,2,6

ARRIVALS

Rota-Saipan			
CO 9598	11:10am	11:45am	1,2,6
Guam-Saipan			
CO 9316	2:30am	3:20am	Daily
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
CO9598	10:15am	11:45am	1,2,6 via Rota
CO9600	10:45am	11:35am	3,4,5,7
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	Daily
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
Narita-Saipan			
NW 076	10:15am	2:55pm	Daily
NW 077	6:25pm	1:30am+1	Daily via Nagoya
Osaka-Saipan			
NW 084	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
Nagoya-Saipan			
NW 077	9:00pm	1:30am+1	Daily
Manila-Saipan			
CO 890	9:15am	2:55pm	6
CO 890	11:45am	5:35pm	3
Seoul-Saipan			
OZ 605	9:00am	2:30pm	2,4,6,7
OZ 603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ 603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1,2,3,4,5,6
Busan-Saipan			
OZ 607	9:30pm	2:50am+1	3,4,6,7
Manila-Guam			
CO 894	11:20am	4:55pm	2,7
CO 894	7:45pm	1:20am+1	6
CO 892	9:45pm	6:30am+1	3 via Koror and Yap
CO 892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	5 via Koror
CO 934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR 110	10:20pm	4:00am+1	1,3,5,6,7
Guanzhou-Saipan			
CZ 3007	8:00pm	4:00am+1	1,5
Hongkong-Guam			
CO 910	10:35pm	5:15am+1	1,5
Rota-Guam			
CO 9313	9:30am	10:00am	3,4,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Schedule of Religious Services

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral
Sunday Mass: 6am, 9am, 11am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm

Korean Center
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am
Monday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm
Saturday: 6am and 6pm

Nuestra Senora De Soledad Parish
Wednesday Mass: 6pm
First Friday Healing Mass: 6pm
Saturday Mass: 6pm
Sunday Masses: 7:30am & 9am

Saint Jude Parish
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Wednesday and Thursday: 6pm

San Antonio Parish
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Tuesday and Friday: 6pm

San Francisco de Borja-Rota
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6pm

San Isidro-Rota
Sunday: 5am and 10am
Monday-Wednesday: 7pm
Thursday-Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish
Sunday: 6am and 7:30am
Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday: 6pm

San Roque Parish
Sunday: 9am
Wednesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10:30am

San Vicente Parish
Sunday: 6am, 9am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6pm

Santa Remedios
Sunday: 7:30am
Tuesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10am-Baptism

Santa Soledad
Sunday: 7:30am

PROTESTANT

Born Again Christian (Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm

Chinese Christian Church of Saipan
Worship Services: Sunday, 10am and 7:30pm
Bible Study: Tuesday-Friday, 9:25pm

Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan
Worship/Study Opportunities
Adult Sunday School: 9am
Youth Sunday School: 9am
English Worship Service Sunday: 10am
Sunday Service: 5:30pm
Worship/Fellowship Sunday: 9:30pm
Evangelism/Follow-up: Sunday/Monday: 1:30/7:30pm
Worship Team: Monday/Saturday-9pm;
Cell Groups Tuesday: 7:30pm
Mid-week Service: 7:30pm
Prayer Meeting Wednesday: 7:30pm
Leader's Bible Study Friday: 7:30 pm
Cornerstone School of Ministry Saturday: 7:30pm

Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am
Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau,
Call 235-0545 for directions

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan
Worship Service: 9am
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: Monday-Saturday: 6am
Sunday: 7am
Home Cell Bible Study: Wednesday-Friday: 7pm
Youth Service: Friday: 5:30pm

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan
Wednesday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (English)
Saturday: 5:30am (Tagalog); 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church Koblerville
Sunday Services
9:00 AM
Place of the church-next to Mt. Carmel Cathedral on Chalan Kanoa Dr. • Tel: 322-6158
Pastor JJ Matsumoto

Immanuel Methodist Church (Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)

Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan
English Service: 9-11am, Sunday
Tagalog Service: 6-8pm, Sunday

Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 8:20am
Sunday Adult: 10am
Sunday Adult: 11:30am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 10am–12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

Missions Connection Ministry
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

Northern Marianas Christian Church
Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided)
Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620

Saipan Bible Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30-10am
Divine Worship: 10am-11:30am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

Saipan Christian Church
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 6pm
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 7pm
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30pm

Saipan Community Church
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

First Baptist Church
(Formerly Saipan Baptist Church)
Afetna St., San Antonio
Sunday
9am Sunday school
10am Regular worship
6pm worship
Wednesday
7pm worship
Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church. For further information, please call Pastor David M. Mclure at 234-1939/235-7779.

Thy Word Ministries Saipan Faith Center
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi
Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

Upper Room International Ministries
Sunday 5:30am-6:30am Morning prayer
7am-9am English service
7am-9am Sunday school
10am-12noon English service, Koblerville
Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting
Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service
Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

Victory Chapel Christian Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 21, 1999

Rebate cut pushed
The chair of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee has thrown support behind a recommendation to cut income rebates in the Commonwealth in efforts to finance critical infrastructure development on the island. Rep. Karl T. Reyes said the current rebate on personal income of up to 90 percent should be reduced to 70 percent, while corporate income rebate should go down from 50 percent to 30 percent.

DPH warns against products from Belgium
The Department of Public Health has started checking the Commonwealth food wholesalers to find out if they have imported products from Belgium particularly chicken and eggs which may have been contaminated with cancer-causing agent dioxin. "While we believe that there is little cause for concern, we urge the public to take care in purchasing food products and to contact the Bureau of Environmental Health if they have any questions," said Joseph Kevin Villagomez, DPH secretary.

Nonresidents' benefits face ax
The Legislature will have to amend existing laws to remove benefits provided to nonresident workers if the federal government succeeds in its plan to apply the U.S. minimum wage standards in the Commonwealth, according to House Speaker Diego T. Benavente. But he has assured the private sector that the island government would step up efforts to block attempts in the Congress to strip CNMI authority over local immigration, minimum wage and customs laws.

June 21, 2000

Quarantine alerted on food from FSM
The CNMI government has mobilized its quarantine personnel stationed at both the islands' air and sea transport facilities to guard against the entry of all food items from the Federated States of Micronesia feared to be contaminated with cholera-causing bacteria. The Quarantine Division of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources has been instructed by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to strictly enforce the restriction on the entry of food from the island-nation until it is cleared of the infectious disease.

HANMI: Don't change BGRT law
The Hotel Association of Northern Mariana Islands has asked the House of Representatives to defer action on a proposed measure that will amend the Business Gross Revenue tax because it would have a negative effect on the hotel and tourism industry. In a letter to House Ways and Means Committee Chair Antonio M. Camacho, David Wiseman, legal counsel of HANMI, said the hotel association does not see any need to amend the Gross Revenue provisions of the Code since this concern has already been addressed under existing laws.

CDA curbs non-performing loans
The number of loans issued by the Commonwealth Development Authority that are considered non-performing remained at a tolerable level primarily because of recently-enforced measures that reduce average monthly mortgage by borrowers, according to Executive Director Marylou S. Ada. CDA has launched a program aimed at educating its clients on ways to become better borrowers, underscoring the importance of a good credit history in their future loan applications.

June 21, 2001

Alarming level of nitrate found in Kagman wells
The results of the tests done on the water wells in Kagman are now out and they are not looking good. According to Rep. Tom Pangelinan, the Northern Marianas College and the US Geological Service, which conducted the tests, have found out that water taken from the wells in Kagman showed levels of nitrate that almost exceed the maximum allowable limits set by the US Environmental Protection Agency.

Hotel occupancy rate falls to 11-month low
The Commonwealth's tourism industry continues to reel from hard economic times, with April's hotel occupancy rate dipping 7.5 percent, which translates to an eleven-month low. Figures obtained from the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands indicate that the hotel occupancy rate regressed from 60.65 percent in March to a shade 56 percent the following month. April's hotel occupancy rate, the lowest in almost a year, represents a very insignificant growth from last year of the same month's 55.37 percent.

Business

Oil drops as China sets fuel price hike

NEW YORK (AP)—Oil prices dropped sharply Thursday after China said it will raise fuel prices, a move that could dampen the booming Asian nation's oil consumption.

Prices also were given a downward push by the Iraqi Oil Ministry's announcement that it is close to signing oil service deals with several major Western oil companies in an effort to boost its crude output.

Retail gas prices, meanwhile, slid overnight.

Light, sweet crude for July delivery fell $4.75 to settle at $131.93 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

China disclosed that it will raise prices for gasoline and diesel fuel 16 percent and 18 percent, respectively, beginning Friday.

Growing Chinese demand for oil has underpinned the multi-year rally in oil prices, but higher prices could crimp that demand. Concerns about spiking Chinese demand for diesel due to cleanup operations in the aftermath of last month's earthquake contributed to oil's recent run-up.

"This could change the psychology of the market completely," said James Cordier, president of Tampa, Fla.-based trading firms Liberty Trading Group and OptionSellers.com.

Lower demand in China "would be a major factor in driving prices down," said Phil Flynn, an analyst at Alaron Trading Corp. in Chicago.

Also pressuring prices Thursday was Iraq's announcement.

The service agreements would be the first major Iraqi contracts with big Western companies since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion. In March, Iraq's Cabinet said the ministry could sign deals worth around $500 million each. Baghdad hopes to boost output by 600,000 barrels a day over its current 2.5 million barrels per day.

Economy limping along, leading indicators show

NEW YORK (AP)—The economy, hobbled by higher fuel and food prices, tighter credit and a depressed housing market, is limping along at a snail's pace, a private business group said Thursday.

Separately, the number of newly laid-off workers filing for unemployment benefits remained at worrisomely high levels, even as it dropped slightly last week.

The New York-based Conference Board said Thursday its economic indicators rose 0.1 percent in May, matching expectations of economists surveyed by Thomson/IFR. The increase in the indicators, a measure of future economic activity, equaled April's 0.1 percent advance. The Conference Board revised March's number down from 0.1 to zero.

The index is designed to forecast economic activity in the next three to six months based on 10 components, including stock prices, building permits and initial claims for unemployment benefits.

"The economy is very weak heading into the summer, with gas and utility bills possibly heading even higher," said Ken Goldstein, Conference Board economist. "But latest data suggest the economy has not fallen into a contraction and may not undergo one in the second half of the year."

Hundreds swept up in mortgage fraud arrests

WASHINGTON (AP)—More than 400 real estate industry players have been indicted since March—including dozens over the last two days—in a Justice Department crackdown on incidents of mortgage fraud nationwide that stem from the country's housing crisis.

The FBI put the losses to homeowners and other borrowers who were victims in the schemes at over $1 billion.

"Mortgage fraud poses a significant threat to our economy, to the stability of our nation's housing markets and to the peace of mind of millions of American homeowners," Deputy Attorney General Mark Filip said at an afternoon news conference.

Since March 1, 406 people have been arrested in the sting dubbed "Operation Malicious Mortgage" resulting from 144 cases across the country. Sixty people were arrested on Wednesday alone, including in Chicago, Miami, Houston and a dozen other regions policed by the FBI.

Law enforcement officials said their stepped-up focus on mortgage cases aims to combat problems that have grown out of the risky lending practices prevalent until the mortgage market collapse started last year. Officials have identified 10 "mortgage fraud hotspots" nationwide in California, Colorado, Texas, Minnesota, Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, New York, Georgia and Florida.

Nation

House OKS $162B war fund

WASHINGTON (AP)—A long-delayed Iraq war funding bill sailed through the House on Thursday, along with historic increases in college aid for returning troops and help for the unemployed and Midwestern flood victims.

Republican allies of President Bush provided the winning margin in a 268-155 vote to provide $162 billion to fund U.S. operations in Iraq and Afghanistan well into next year.

Democrats opposed to the war, however, succeeded in using the Iraq funding bill as an engine to drive past White House resistance a sweeping revision to GI Bill college benefits and a 13-week extension of unemployment checks for those whose benefits have run out.

Lawmakers separately approved those domestic add-ons by a 416-12 vote, sending the combined bill to the Senate for a vote next week. The White House issued a statement supporting the legislation.

The measure also provides a quick $2.7 billion infusion of emergency flood relief for the Midwest, though more is expected to be needed to deal with the major losses in Iowa, Illinois and other states.

The bill would bring to more than $650 billion the amount provided by Congress for the war in Iraq since it started five years ago. Nearly $200 billion in additional funding has gone to operations in Afghanistan, according to congressional analysts.

It also would give Bush's successor several months to set Iraq policy after taking office in January—and spares lawmakers the need to cast more war funding votes closer to Election Day.

Obama team weighs Nunn, Edwards as running mates

WASHINGTON (AP)—Former Sens. John Edwards and Sam Nunn are on a list of potential running mates for Democrat Barack Obama, a congresswoman said Thursday, one day after she met with the team Obama has reviewing possible candidates.

Rep. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, D-Mich., who leads the Congressional Black Caucus, said members of her caucus asked her to forward the names of Edwards and Nunn when she met Wednesday with Obama's vice presidential search team. The team, Caroline Kennedy and Eric Holder, indicated the two were on the list.

"We've been brainstorming in the Congressional Black Caucus. Former Senator Sam Nunn's name has come up, as well as John Edwards' name has come up among our CBC members. I reported that to them and they had both of those names on their list," Kilpatrick said in an interview with The Associated Press.

Kilpatrick said she made several suggestions during the 45-minute meeting, including former Vice President Al Gore, Pennsylvania Rep. John Murtha and Ohio Governor Ted Strickland. Gore endorsed Obama on Monday.

"I asked them what type of person the senator is looking for? And they said in general someone who could help him rebuild the country ... talking about change. How we reinvest in America, get people back to work and reinforce our education system and bring the jobs back," she said.

Bush tells flood-weary Iowa citizens that he is listening

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa (AP)—President Bush, surveying the aftermath of devastating floods during a lightning-quick tour of the Midwest on Thursday, assured residents and rescuers alike that he is listening to their concerns and understands their exhaustion.

"Obviously, to the extent we can help immediately, we will help," said Bush, still mindful of criticism that the government reacted slowly to Hurricane Katrina three years ago.

"You'll come back better," the president said while being briefed by state and local officials at a cinderblock emergency operations center set up at a community college here, part of a three-hour tour. "Sometimes it's hard to see it."

Bush was in Europe when tornadoes hit and heavy rains sent rivers surging over their banks, killing at least 24 people, the majority in Iowa. Flooding forced tens of thousands across six states to flee their homes and washed out millions of acres of prime farm and grazing lands. He made a point to try to show his deep concern while overseas and traveled to Iowa just two days after returning.

"I really don't have much of an opinion of his coming," said Lashawn Baker, 33, whose family was just starting to clean her flooded home in a southwest Cedar Rapids neighborhood.

ACROSS THE NATION

Low approval rate for vets' chemical tests claims

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Veterans Affairs Department has granted only 6 percent of health claims filed by veterans of secret Cold War chemical and germ warfare tests conducted by the Pentagon, according to figures obtained Thursday by The Associated Press. Veterans advocates called the number appallingly low. By comparison, about 88 percent of processed claims from Gulf War vets were granted as of last year, according to VA documents. More than 90 percent of processed claims from Iraq and Afghanistan vets were granted as of earlier this year.

McCain reports May finances, sets personal record

WASHINGTON (AP)—Republican Sen. John McCain started June with more than $31 million in the bank after having the best fundraising month of his presidential campaign, according to documents filed Thursday with the Federal Election Commission. McCain reported raising $21 million in May, his biggest monthly haul yet. He spent $11.6 million during a month and reported nearly $1.3 million in debt. Despite this, he still lags behind his Democratic rival, Sen. Barack Obama. The Democrat had raised more than $265 million as of the end of April.

2 charged on Wall Street in mortgage meltdown

NEW YORK (AP)—Two former Bear Stearns hedge fund managers were hauled into jail Thursday and charged with lying to investors about the collapse of the subprime mortgage market, perhaps signaling the start of a wave of prosecutions arising from the housing meltdown. Ralph Cioffi and Matthew Tannin were accused of encouraging investors to stay in their hedge funds, heavily exposed to subprime mortgages, even as they knew the credit market was in serious trouble. They were indicted on conspiracy and fraud counts.

NY fund swindler's girlfriend accused in escape

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP)—The girlfriend of a missing hedge fund swindler was arrested Thursday and charged with helping him elude his sentence on the day he was supposed to begin serving 20 years in prison. Debra Ryan, of Armonk, was charged with aiding and abetting the escape of Samuel Israel III. The complaint against Ryan indicates that Israel may have taken off in a recreational vehicle packed with his belongings and carrying a motor scooter. The day after he was supposed to surrender, Ryan told state police she found a suicide note written by Israel, the complaint said.

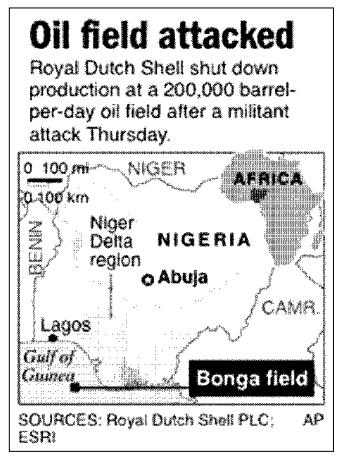
World

Nigerian oil field is shut down after rebels' attack

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—Militants in speedboats raided an oil installation off Nigeria's southern coastline on Thursday, forcing Royal Dutch Shell to slash production and exposing Africa's biggest oil industry as vulnerable even on the high seas.

The attack by fighters of the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta, about 85 miles into the oil-rich Gulf of Guinea, was the militant group's farthest-ever attack in the open ocean.

"The location for today's attack was deliberately chosen to remove any notion that offshore oil exploration is far from our reach," the group said. "The oil companies and their collaborators do not have any place to hide in conducting their nefarious activities."



The group is Nigeria's most effective militant gang. Its campaign of bombing pipelines and attacks on export facilities, launched in 2006, had already slashed Nigeria's daily oil output by about 20 percent, helping send global oil prices to all-time highs.

Thursday's attack by gunmen riding in several open-hulled boats trimmed that 10 percent further. Shell confirmed the attack on a deep-water installation and said it had shut down about 200,000 barrels per day in production from the Bonga oil field.

The militants said they had aimed to destroy the installation's computer room but didn't at the last moment because it could have meant the needless death of the rig's staff members.

China admits taking US POW from Korea

WASHINGTON (AP)—After decades of denials, the Chinese have acknowledged burying an American prisoner of war in China, telling the U.S. that a teenage soldier captured in the Korean War died a week after he "became mentally ill," according to documents provided to The Associated Press.

China had long insisted that all POW questions were answered at the conclusion of the war in 1953 and that no Americans were moved to Chinese territory from North Korea. The little-known case of Army Sgt. Richard G. Desautels, of Shoreham, Vt., opens another chapter in this story and raises the possibility that new details concerning the fate of other POWs may eventually surface.

AP

This 1950's black-and-white handout photo provided by the Desautels family, shows Army Sgt. Richard G. Desautels.

Chinese authorities gave Pentagon officials intriguing new details about Desautels in a March 2003 meeting in Beijing, saying they had found "a complete record of 9-10 pages" in classified archives.

Until now, this information had been kept quiet; a Pentagon spokesman said it was intended only for Desautels' family members. The details were provided to Desautels' brother, Rolland, who passed them to a POW-MIA advocacy group, the National Alliance of Families, which gave them to AP this week.

Emirates sheik on trial in Switzerland

GENEVA (AP)—Geneva's chief prosecutor argued Thursday that a brother of the United Arab Emirates' ruler should receive the maximum penalty on a charge of assaulting an American man with his belt in a luxury hotel bar.

Silvano Orsi, a resident of Rochester, N.Y., says Sheik Falah bin Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan hit him repeatedly with a belt with a steel buckle after Orsi declined a bottle of champagne from the sheik.

The sheik and his lawyer deny the charges. Defense lawyer Marco Crisante told the court that Orsi's legal complaint was full of lies meant to pressure the sheik for money.

Geneva's chief prosecutor, Daniel Zappelli, said that the defendant should be given the maximum penalty of more than $960,000 for the incident in the bar of Geneva's La Reserve Hotel.

Zappelli said the case "is in no way different from a case of a common delinquent."

Orsi said that after he refused the champagne the sheik, whom he had never met, came up behind him, jostled his glasses, sat in his lap and tried to kiss and fondle him. When Orsi protested, the assault began, he said.

The sheik says the men got into a heated argument after he overheard someone call him gay and acknowledged that he pulled his belt from his trousers, but insists he never struck Orsi.

WORLD BRIEFS

Quiet reigns in Israel, Gaza as truce takes hold

SDEROT, Israel (AP)—Raz Elraz, for the first time, will be able to take his 14-month-old son to a playground in this rocket-scarred Israeli town. A few miles away in Gaza, Palestinian teenagers ride their bicycles, and Hamas guards play pingpong. The six-month truce that took effect Thursday was welcomed by both sides, although the Palestinian economy is still being held in check by a closed border. The cease-fire is meant to end Palestinian rocket barrages and Israeli reprisals in Gaza that have killed more than 400 Palestinians—many of them civilians—and seven Israelis in fighting since the Islamic Hamas seized control of the Gaza Strip a year ago.

Zimbabwe opposition reports 4 deaths ahead of vote

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP)—Zimbabwe's opposition party said Thursday that it was facing escalating violence as it tries to campaign in the last days before a presidential runoff pitting its leader against longtime President Robert Mugabe. In recent weeks, party activists have been burned alive or have turned up dead after being spirited away in trucks, the Movement for Democratic Change said. Their rallies have been banned and police have blocked campaign stops.

More weapons caches turning up in Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP)—Weapons caches are turning up with increasing frequency in public places in Iraq—from a bakery to a fish farm—as recent security gains embolden more civilians to come forward with tips, U.S. and Iraqi military officials say. The odd locations of many of the discoveries reflect the fine line separating civilians from the Shiite and Sunni extremists who don't wear uniforms and often live among them. Many would-be tipsters had previously looked the other way because of intimidation or because they sought protection from local militias.

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$18.99/cs.

Salmon Collar "Smoke"
$2.99/lb.

Heinz, Ketchup 44oz.
$3.69 ea.

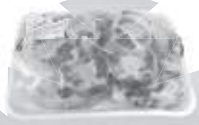
S&W, Whole Kernel Corn 15oz.
99¢ ea.

Hormel, Vienna Sausage 5oz.
60¢ ea.

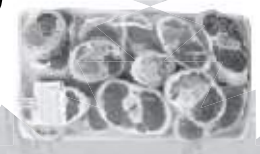
Dinty Moore, Beef Meatball Stew 15oz.
$1.69 ea.

Beef Short Ribs
$3.69 lb.

U.S. Beef Oxtail 10#
$29.99 cs.



U.S. Pork Hocks
$1.79 lb.



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U.S. Goat Ribs Skin-On
$4.29 lb.

Quail Family Pack 28 oz.
$12.49 cs.

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$6.55/ea.

Zee Napkins 360 ct.
$4.00/ea.

Soft N' Gentle Tissue 12 roll
$5.55/ea.

Woolite 16 oz.
$3.59/ea.

Ox & Palm Corned Beef 11.5 oz.
$2.19/ea.

Sun Flower Mackerel 15 oz.
$1.70

PRODUCE

Onion, Yellow US
47¢/lb.

Potato, Russet US
65¢/lb.

Cabbage, Green US
79¢/lb.

Lettuce Romaine Hearts
$2.69/pk.

Garlic, Netted US
$1.14/lb.

Orange Choice US
91¢/lb.

Apple, Gala US
$1.46/lb.

Japan

Jpn Kanet Nihon Soba 250g.
$1.10/ea.

JpnSunaoshi Nihon Noodle 200g.
80¢ea.

Jpn Aji Cookdo Banbanjii 90g.
$2.00/ea.

Higasa Makihushi 280g. $3.69
House Macaroni Gratin 160g. $2.90
Aji Cookdo Subuta 140g. $2.39
Lion Mosquito Coil $1.49

Meat

U.S. Beef Shank	$1.99 lb.
U.S. Beef Ribeye Steak	$2.79 lb.
U.S. Pork Leg Whole	$1.95 lb.
U.S. Goat Steak Skin-On	$4.29 lb.
U.S. Goat Soup SLC Skin-On	$4.29 lb.
U.S. Ham, Pork Picnic SMK	$1.89 lb.

Groceries

Airwick Airfreshener 6ct.	$19.00
Joy D/Liq. Lemon 16oz.	$1.35
Takeya Tokujyo Miso 1kg.	$4.59
House Macaroni Gratin 160g.	$2.90
Macaroni Restaurant 300g.	89¢
BC HH Beef Pasta 5.6 oz.	$2.00
Folgers Coffee Decaf 12 oz.	$7.00

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Maharlika – PinoyNews

New online application for OEC

By RIANNE PANGELINAN-BROWN
rianne_pangelinan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration has implemented a new online application process for the issuance of the POEA Travel Exit Clearance, otherwise known as the Overseas Employment Certificate.

"Previously, overseas Filipino workers already in the Philippines would have to personally proceed to the POEA Office to apply for their exit clearance," according to Philippine Consul General Wilfredo DL. Maximo. "With this new application system, OFWs can avail of the two-way delivery system through the Internet and have the OEC delivered to their residence in the Philippines using the Aboitiz/2GO courier services."

Maximo

Since the application is online, Maximo said that OFWs need not go to the POEA to get their OECs, giving them more time to spend with families and friends during their stay in the Philippines.

"This delivery service is available nationwide and the new system is part of POEA's continuous effort to provide quality service to OFWs," Maximo said.

With the new online process, vacationing workers can apply for an exit clearance through the Internet by logging on to www.oecdelivery.com.ph and then following the instructions on the website.

For payment, applicants should pay the total amount of P2,650 (inclusive of fees for OWWA and Philhealth membership, OEC processing, and courier) at the Aboitiz 2GO payment centers located at SM Megamall in Mandaluyong, SM Mall of Asia in Pasay, and People's Support Building in Buendia, Makati.

Together with the payment, applicants also need to submit photocopies of their passport (data page, visa page if any, latest arrival and departure stamps by immigration authorities, entry permit/re-entry letter, valid OWWA and Philhealth memberships, if any). After validation of submitted proof of OWWA and Philhealth memberships with POEA, Aboitiz/2GO will deliver the OEC to the applicant's desired address after three working days. Upon OEC delivery, applicants with valid OWWA and Philhealth memberships will be refunded the corresponding amount.

Maximo said that should the OFW decide not to avail of the two-way delivery system, "they have the option to print out the OFW information sheet after applying online and proceed to the POEA to file their application."

He added that OFWs may also secure their POEA travel exit clearance from the following:

- Balik-Manggagawa Processing Division, Service Area, POEA, Blas F. Ople Building corner EDSA, Mandaluyong City;
- POEA Regional Centers/Regional Extension Units and Satellite Offices;
- POEA-deputized OWWA regional offices and units;
- Exit Clearance One-Way Delivery System Dropbox POEA Service Area; or
- Philippine Overseas Labor Office in various Philippine embassies and consulates abroad.

Maximo said that OFWs may also visit the POEA website at www.poea.gov.ph for more information. They may also call the Aboitiz/2GO courier services in Manila at (011-632) 737-7777.

NEW DOMESTIC TERMINAL
A worker uses a mop to clean a portion of the new airport Friday, June 20, 2008 at the new Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3 in suburban Pasay City, south of Manila, as portions of the airport are being readied for domestic flight services. President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo has created a task force to ensure the immediate opening of NAIA Terminal 3 despite its controversies involving legal and technical issues.
AP

Sulu mayor, son charged

Principal negotiator is now kidnap suspect

By JOEL GUINTO, ALCUIN PAPA
INQUIRER.NET, PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—The chief negotiator is now the principal suspect.

Mayor Alvarez Isnaji of Indanan, Sulu, and his son Haider Isnaji have been placed under arrest and charged with kidnapping in connection with the abduction of ABS-CBN news anchor Ces Drilon, her two cameramen and a university professor in Kulasi village, Maimbung town late in the morning of June 8.

Charges of four counts of kidnapping for ransom were filed in the Department of Justice by the police Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) against the Isnajis, who had negotiated for the release of the captives.

The government has a standing policy of not negotiating with terrorists and kidnappers.

During inquest proceedings that started at 11:30 p.m. Thursday at the CIDG headquarters in Camp Crame, Drilon and her crewmen, Jimmy Encarnacion and Angelo Valderama, faced Mayor Isnaji and his son for the first time since their release Tuesday night.

Throughout the roughly one-hour-long proceedings, Drilon, who was seated beside Encarnacion and Valderama, did not look at the Isnajis, who were seated across them.

During the inquest, the hostage victims and police witnesses, who arrested the Isnajis, submitted their sworn statements to the DoJ panel.

Senior State Prosecutor Emilie Fe Delos Santos set the first pre-trial hearing on the case on Monday at 1:30 p.m. The pre-trial investigation will determine whether or not formal charges will be filed before the courts.

Drilon family paid P5M but mayor kept P3M—officials

MANILA—The family of a television reporter who was abducted by alleged members of the Abu Sayyaf paid P5 million to her captors although only P2 million reached them, police and justice officials disclosed Friday.

In separate press conferences, Philippine National Police Chief Avelino Razon and Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez said that the family of ABS-CBN's Ces Drilon gave the ransom to Indanan Mayor Alvarez Isnaji, who was negotiating for her release, along with her crew and a professor, after they were abducted last June 8 in Sulu.

The kidnappers initially demanded a P15 million ransom.

"The initial payment was P5 million, however P2 million lang naibigay sa [only P2 million was given to the] kidnap for ransom group and the P3 million was kept by Mayor Isnaji," said Razon.

Razon showed a picture of Isnaji and several others counting the money.

Gonzalez also said that based on witnesses' accounts, Isnaji allegedly pocketed P3 million and gave the balance to the abductors.

Gonzalez said the money was divided in the house of Isnaji.

? LABOR FRONT

Labor's Revolving Fund

By FERDIE P. DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Q: Can the Department of Labor Secretary use funds from the Labor Revolving Fund to pay a final Labor judgment against an employer?

A: According to the new Alien Labor Rules and Regulations, funds in the trust account may be used by the Labor Secretary to pay a final judgment against an employer who has paid for coverage from the Labor Trust Account Revolving Fund.

The Regulations state that the Secretary may in his or her discretion, but is not required to, pay judgments which remain unpaid by reason of defaults by insurers if an employer has a contract with an insurance company. The Secretary may also do so at his or her discretion if a claim has been made and denied or is uncollectible and the alien worker opts for repatriation. These judgments normally would be paid from the Deportation Fund.

■■■

Q: When is a Labor judgment considered final?

A: A Labor judgment is considered final when all appeals have been exhausted. The Regulations also state that the Secretary may, at his or her discretion, assign judgments paid from the Trust Account for collection by a private firm. Payments are limited to the amount of the judgment or $3,000, whichever is a lower amount, less any repatriation costs to be met by the Commonwealth.

The Secretary shall be substituted for the payee in any available cause of action to collect on the judgment from the employer or insurer.

■■■

Q: What is the limitation on recovery from Labor's Trust Account Revolving Fund?

A: An alien worker who has a judgment arising out of a case or matter brought before a court or other administrative agency and not adjudicated by Labor may not recover from the Labor Trust Account Revolving Fund or the Deportation Fund for any money damages awarded by the court or other administrative agency, provided however that the costs of repatriation may be paid from these funds as appropriate.

Enforcement of judgments from courts or other administrative agencies in cases not adjudicated by the Labor is through the processes of those courts or other administrative agencies.

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Filipino rebels hide foreign militants

By JIM GOMEZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Two Muslim rebel groups in the Philippines, including one engaged in peace talks with the government, have provided sanctuary and helped Indonesian terror suspects sought by Washington elude arrest for years, according to an interrogation report of a captured Indonesian militant.

Among several Indonesians hiding in the south were Umar Patek and Dulmatin, suspects in the deadly 2002 Bali nightclub bombings who have trained local insurgents in bomb making, according to the Indonesian government report seen Thursday by The Associated Press.

Mohammad Khildan Baihaqi, a suspected member of the Indonesia-based militant group Jemaah Islamiyah who was captured by troops in southern Davao Oriental province in February, told Indonesian authorities the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and the Abu Sayyaf helped him and other Indonesians gain sanctuary and protection in the south, the report said.

Baihaqi's disclosures show that Indonesian militants and Filipino insurgents continue to maintain active ties in the southern Philippines, organizing terror training and plotting new attacks. The Philippine military has said about 40 Indonesian Islamic radicals have been on the run from U.S.-backed offensives, looking for a way to escape back home.

Indonesian authorities were allowed to interrogate Baihaqi, who is in army custody in Manila.

"The Indonesian mujahedeen or voluntary fighters in Mindanao were under the protection of the MILF and the ASG (Abu Sayyaf group)," the report quoted Baihaqi as saying.

The southern Mindanao region, home to the Philippines' Muslim minority, has seen decades of bloody Islamic separatist rebellions by several groups.

The Abu Sayyaf, blacklisted by Washington as a terrorist group for conducting bombings, kidnappings and beheadings, was implicated in the recent kidnapping of a popular TV news anchor and her two-man crew. They have been freed.

The MILF and Abu Sayyaf have separately collaborated with Indonesian Islamic radicals in plotting new attacks, said Baihaqi, who the report said was allegedly involved in a plan to bomb a Roman Catholic cathedral in the south when captured.

OFW in Qatar jailed for co-worker's use of cell phone

By VERONICA UY
INQUIRER.NET

MANILA—A Filipino worker in Qatar was sentenced to one month in jail and fined 3,000 Qatar riyals after he lent his cellular phone to another worker who used the unit to verbally harass a woman, an OFW group said Friday.

John Leonard Monterona, regional coordinator of the Migrante-Middle East, thus warned all OFWs not to allow anybody else to use their personal cellular phones. He also advised them to report to police any incident of phone loss or theft.

Monterona said Florence, the wife of Roy Palaoag, a loader and backhoe operator for Doha-based Qatar Quarry, sought the organization's assistance for a crime that her husband did not commit.

In October 2006, Palaoag lent his phone to a co-worker, an Indian national, who then used it to call a woman and threaten her, the OFW's wife said.

The woman reported the incident to the Qatar police, who later traced the owner of the phone.

Monterona noted that the Qatar government regulated cell phone SIM cards, requiring buyers to fill up an application form and to submit a copy of the applicant's Iqama (residence permit). He said Qtel, Qatar's national telephone company, enters the user's personal information into the government's centralized information system.

"This makes it easy for them to trace any call," he said.

Ma of Filipina allegedly raped by US soldier appeals for help

AP

Melly (no last name given), mother of the Filipina girl allegedly raped by an American soldier in Okinawa, is comforted by an unidentified woman during a press conference Thursday, June 19, 2008 in suburban Quezon City, north of Manila.

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The mother of a Filipino woman allegedly raped by a U.S. soldier in Japan appealed Thursday for support, saying her daughter is determined to press charges.

Appearing in public for the first time, the mother urged the Philippine government "not to abandon my child," who was hospitalized for a week after being found in a hotel room bleeding after the alleged assault in February.

In May, a prosecutor in Okinawa dismissed charges against the U.S. soldier after finding insufficient evidence of violence and intimidation, the left-wing Gabriela Women's Party said.

The mother, who identified herself only as Melly, said her 22-year-old daughter went to Japan to work as an entertainer to help her family and to raise money for the treatment of a younger sister who suffered an accident.

"I felt like I was going to die when I learned about what happened to my daughter," she tearfully told a news conference. "I call on everyone to support my daughter. She doesn't want to come home because she wants to fight."

She described her daughter as "quiet, but fearless when angered."

The rape allegation has rekindled outrage among activist groups against the Philippine government and the U.S. military after a U.S. Marine was convicted in 2006 of raping a Filipino woman at a former U.S. naval base west of Manila, then detained at the U.S. Embassy, not in a Philippine jail.

Drilon, Legarda on Isnaji's role: Maybe

By BEVERLY T. NATIVIDAD
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—"Maybe."

Ces Drilon could not give a categorical reply when asked if Indanan Mayor Alvarez Isnaji had conspired with her kidnappers, as police officials have alleged.

Drilon talked to reporters before attending a thanksgiving Mass with her family, close friends and colleagues Thursday at Medical City hospital in Pasig City where she was confined.

"The mayor … maybe," said Drilon.

Drilon said her suspicion was somehow roused after her abductors chose Isnaji as the main emissary when they previously said that they did not want a politician as a negotiator.

She said she found it confusing and asked them why they chose Isnaji.

"I said I thought no politician, but why the mayor?" she said.

Drilon said her kidnappers told her that they knew Isnaji and if he betrayed them, they could easily kill him or his family.

But she said she was somewhat torn and could not say she was convinced that Isnaji was behind her kidnapping.

"Personally, I can't say," she said.

"But there may be some evidence," she said.

"Of course, we were successfully taken out from the clutches of those guys by his son, so it's hard to judge," Drilon said.

AP

Popular TV news anchor Ces Drilon, facing camera, embraces Senator Loren Legarda, who helped secure Drilon's freedom, following a news conference at the Manila Airport Wednesday June 18, 2008.

She also said that there were no tell-tale signs if Isnaji was a conspirator in her conversations with him. "I didn't feel that."

Drilon suspected that phone conversations between Isnaji and the kidnappers could have been tapped.

"So I'm hoping that [wiretaps] will stand in court if ever there was anything to suggest that he is a suspect through the conversations with the kidnappers," Drilon said.

Mindanao State University Prof. Octavio Dinampo, who was kidnapped with Drilon, said Thursday in Zamboanga City that he could not believe that Isnaji had been arrested in connection with the abduction.

"I think it is very unfair," Dinampo told reporters. "Mayor Isnaji and his son were just like anybody else who wanted to help us get out of there. Their becoming suspects is really unfair."

Temojen Tulawie, provincial chair of the Consortium of Bangsamoro Society in Sulu, expressed surprise at the turn of events.

"We are appealing for the immediate and safe release of the mayor and his son," said Tulawie.

In an interview with the Philippine Daily Inquirer on Wednesday, Sen. Loren Legarda, who played a key role in the negotiations, disclosed that "from the beginning he (Isnaji) was suspected already, that's why he was withdrawing (as a negotiator)."

Storm signal No. 3 raised over Samar

MANILA (INQUIRER.net)—Storm signal No. 3 has been raised over the Samar provinces after Storm "Frank" (international codename: Fengshen) intensified further as it threatened the Visayas and Mindanao with maximum sustained winds of 110 kilometers per hour, the weather bureau said.

Frank was located some 180 kilometers east of Guiuan, Eastern Samar, and was moving west northwestward at 15 kph with gustiness estimated at up to 140 kph, the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said in its 5 a.m. bulletin.

Storm signal No. 2 was hoisted over Catanduanes and Sorsogon in Luzon, Leyte Provinces and Biliran Island in the Visayas, and islands of Dinagat and Siargao in Mindanao.

Storm signal No. 1 was raised over Camarines Sur, Albay, Burias Island, Masbate and Ticao Island in Luzon, Northern Cebu and Bohol in the Visayas, and Surigao del Norte, Surigao del Sur, Agusan del Norte and Camiguin in Mindanao, PAGASA said.

Areas under Storm signal No. 3 are expected to be buffeted by 100-185 kph winds, while winds of 60-100 kph will hit those under Storm signal No. 2, according to the weather bureau.

Although PAGASA weather branch chief Nathaniel Cruz predicted that the possibility of the storm making a landfall is "very nil," he said it is expected to enhance the southwest monsoon and bring rains over the rest of Mindanao and Visayas and later to Southern Luzon.

PAGASA has advised residents living in low-lying areas and near mountain slopes to take extra precautions against possible flash floods and landslides.

Maharlika – PinoyStyle

Cesar's sis airs side in row with Sunshine

By DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—The sun isn't smiling yet on Sunshine Cruz and Cesar Montano. Their domestic front has turned into a battle front, with Shine's filing of a libel suit against Buboy's sister, Maria Mercedes Manhilot-Cantu a.k.a. Ched, for allegedly spreading malicious stories about her in cyberspace.

Got an e-mail from Ched, who's based in Italy. Here's her side of the story:

"I had my qualms about Shine before, and I have my reasons for this. I was just being a protective *ate* to Cesar then. But when they got married, I tried my best to be her *ate* as well.

"I have said a lot of things to her personally, both good and bad. I cannot remember specifically if I said those things she claims I said in e-mails. I will have to check my files.

"Shine and I have our misunderstandings. Let's leave it at that. But for sure, I'm not the cause of their separation issue. That is an old song that the two revive from time to time.

"Re the libel case, I'll wait for the summons. Until then, I will go on with my life here in Italy. I don't see any reason for me to be intimidated. After all, I am an Italian citizen.

"My life does not rely on other people's perception of me. But for Cesar, that is a different story. I hope Sunshine took that into consideration before she did this sort of thing."

As a close friend of the couple, I hope Shine will do a Sun Tzu and learn how to win without fighting. Buboy should not be made to choose between being more of a husband to Shine or more of a brother to Chedy. Knowing Buboy, his heart is big enough to love them both.

Worth fighting for

"Love is worth fighting for if you think it's real and you feel loved in return," muses Regine Velasquez. This sums up her sentiments about falling for Ogie Alcasid against all odds. It's very much like the love story of Urduja whose voice she dubs in the country's first full-length digital and traditional animation.

"I can relate to Urduja," says Regine. "We are both strong and stand by our convictions."

Opening on June 18, "Urduja" showcases the artistry of Pinoy animators that have long been used by international producers. It features the voices of Cesar Montano as Limhang, Eddie Garcia as Lakanpati, Johnny Delgado as Wang, Jay Manalo as Simakwel, Michael V as Kukut, Allan K as Tarsir, Ruby Rodriguez as Mayumi and Epi Quizon as Daisuke.

The rest of our voices as proud Pinoys go with the film. It's high time we create our own heroes.

On her own

KC Concepcion is everywhere. Now she's ventured into recording. Her album "a.k.a. Cassandra" (Sony BMG) is a fusion of original compositions and remakes in different arrangements. Very interesting examples are the '80s hits "Melt With You" and "I Just Can't Get Enough" harmonized with percussions which KC herself played live with Pinikpikan.

Sunshine Cruz

She also collaborated with songwriters Ryan Cayabyab in "Ngiti Lang" and Joey de Leon in "Doo Be Doo." Cassandra is no longer a.k.a. Just Mega and Gabo's daughter. She has stepped out of their shadow by shining her own light.

Cool buddy

Dingdong Dantes is such a cool drinking bud. He consumes alcohol but he doesn't let alcohol consume him. "Everything in moderation," says the new endorser of Gran Matador Brandy.

The success he enjoys now, however, is far from being moderate. Dong is elated about his nomination for Best Director ("Angels") in the Star Awards. "Being nominated serves as a promise that there's something to look forward to," he says. "For now, I'd like to focus more on acting. Becoming a seasoned actor will help me be a better director."

He is slated to do a movie after "Dyesebel." Doesn't he yearn for something different than his tried and tested teamup with Marian Rivera? "Time will come for that. For now, I can't ask for anything more." Yet Dong keeps giving his all.

New girl

Could it be true that Jake Cuenca is now eyeing Bea Alonzo? A studio insider insists that they went out on a friendly date. How friendly is friendly?

Dream boy

Katrina Halili is very vocal about her admiration for Dennis Trillo. "He has always been my dream leading man," she says, blushing. "I wanna have a BF like him." Or does she like Dennis to be her BF? "Kung wala bang magagalit." Hmmm… Who would mind if Kat wishes out loud, "Dennis is mine?"

Fresh sound

Is it more than coincidence that Rico Blanco, who was once linked to KC, also launched his song "Yugto" (Warner Music Phil) as a solo artist last Independence Day? It's a fresh sound that has mixed so many elements into one powerful ensemble of epic music.

In "Yugto," you hear Rico as he has never been heard before. He has truly matured as an artist. Aside from writing and singing, he is also the producer and collaborator of his album tracks. Que Rico!

Military honors

GINA Alajar is one of Lorna Tolentino's chums who helped her bear the unbearable during Daboy's wake. "I was so touched when three men in uniform approached me," recalls Gina. "They told me that Daboy, a reservist in the Philippine Navy, helped them a lot so they want to give him a 21-gun salute as a way of honoring him."

Alex and Piolo

Alessandra de Rossi is thrilled to be paired off with Piolo Pascual for the first time. "Too bad we don't have a love scene. But I'll plead for one," she says, with a naughty laugh. Could she possibly fall for Piolo while shooting the indie film? "Sayang three days lang kami mag-shoot. Not enough time for love to blossom." Alex's heart is no longer under renovation. She's ready, willing yet unable to fall in love again for now.

'Survivor' journey

Paolo Bediones is all revved up preparing for his "Survivor Philippines" journey. "I've never been so excited and nervous in my entire life," he says. "I keep praying that God will go ahead of us in the island. The 16 castaways have been chosen." His GF Abby Cruz will keep herself busy while he's gone by putting up her own clothing line. Will she be designing her gown in time for their wedding when Pao returns?

Who's the monster?

Ex-lovers Michelle Madrigal and JC de Vera are reunited onscreen in GMA Films and Regal Entertainment's "My Monster Mom." "My door may be closed for a reconciliation with JC," Michelle says playfully. "But I'm leaving the windows open."

Showing on July 2, the movie is the story of a mother branded as a "monster" for her audacious and terrifying persona. Starring... who else but Annabelle Rama? Enough said.

Working out

Kristine Hermosa and Oyo Boy Sotto were spotted working out together in Fitness First Alabang. Could they also be working things out? Is love gaining more weight than friendship between them?

Going big

Arnel Ignacio can't stop laughing every time he recalls that crazy episode in his life when he spent all his savings to put up a barbecue stand for an ex-lover. "Sige paypay ako ng barbecue habang naglalako. What I did for love!" Talk about full emotional and financial investment.

Now Arnel and the players in his game show "Go Bingo" can go laughing all the way to the bank. Studio contestants get a chance to win a brand new car worth P1 million in the show's new segment "Bonus Plus" and home viewers get bigger prize (P200,000) every Friday in Biyernes Bonanza. Nobody will go home bigo in "GoBingo."

PERSONAL FINANCE

How to combat inflation

Editor's Note: This is part of Take Charge of Your Money , a partnership between INQUIRER.net and Citibank to help readers handle their personal finances well.

Question: It's been in the news lately that the inflation rate has been at its highest since 1999. We in the middle class feel its effects, since the prices of all basic goods have considerably gone up since last year. How do we combat inflation?—Don

Answer: Just a couple of weeks ago, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (central bank) announced that the inflation rate for May 2008 was recorded at 9.6 percent, the highest since January 1999 when the inflation rate was 10.5 percent.

This means that the prices of consumer goods and services have increased by that much on the average, and that we are near the situation we were in back in 1999.

What causes inflation to spike up? Many factors account for this. One is the increase in international oil prices. As a barrel of oil skyrocketed to more than $130 per barrel this year, pump prices worldwide have gone up as well. And because many industries depend on oil and gasoline to run their manufacturing operations, everything else is affected, from food to electricity charges.

Another reason for the steep hike in inflation is the tight supply of rice worldwide. This supply problem has driven up the cost of rice, and affected other goods as well. We Filipinos are more affected than other countries since rice is our staple food.

Still another reason is the increase in transport fares. Most of the population depends on public transport to get to their destinations. As a result, the prices of basic commodities sold in the market have increased, triggering the price hike in almost everything else.

Inflation is a normal occurrence in the economy. Simply put, it is the general increase in prices. This is why over time, you'll notice that the P1,000 you had last year cannot buy today as much in the supermarket as it did before. Going back some more, the P700 tuition fee for a 21-unit full load per semester in a private college 20 years ago is now equivalent to several thousands of pesos per semester.

In some years, the inflation rate is not as high. Last year for instance, the country had a 2.8 percent inflation rate on the average. Life was better then as compared to now when prices are so much higher. Inflation decreases the purchasing power of the peso and affects the value of one's savings and investments over time.

The government does its share in curbing inflation. For instance, it sets interest rates as a control mechanism. Recently, the government also announced subsidies to the poor so they can cope with the rising prices of goods, even as it finds ways to secure an adequate supply of rice.

Combating inflation

Inflation is part and parcel of the economy, and one cannot do much to lower it. But there are some ways to cope with it. Here are some of them:

1. Find ways to increase your income. Since times are hard, now is the best time to pursue a sideline or second job. Do something you're good at, like baking or tutoring, for instance. The extra money to be earned can go into meeting the family's basic needs.

2. Hold buying big-ticket items or incurring a huge expense. For instance, if your whole family is planning on traveling abroad this Christmas, consider delaying until the financial outlook is better. Also put a hold on buying big-ticket items such as a new car if it's not really necessary. You can always settle for a secondhand one.

3. Invest in higher-yielding instruments. If you're still holding all your investible funds in your savings account, the purchasing power of your money has eroded much already due to inflation. Keep only what is necessary in your savings account, then open a long-term high-yielding time deposit for your excess funds. The rate may not match the inflation rate, but still, it's higher than a savings account. If you can take on more risk and are adventurous, and have time on your side, consider investing in stocks or bonds, or mutual funds and unit investment trust funds. They may appear on the low end now but over time may potentially earn you more.

4. Consider other forms of investments. Some financial experts have said that real estate and commodities like gold are not as affected by inflation as other forms of investment.

5. Cut down on spending. Get the whole family in this. Assess how you have been spending lately, and see how you can pare this off. There are many expenses you can cut down on, from dinners in restaurants to taxi rides. The money you will save when you cut your spending can help you meet the rising cost of basic necessities.

We're in for tougher times, but with the drive to weather it, we'll cope with it well.

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Maharlika – Opinyon

Rebels as common criminals

MANILA, Philippines—We tend to fudge labels, and we confuse not just the enemy but also ourselves, and it's costing us plenty. No, no ransom money was paid, just reimbursement for "board and lodging." Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita affirmed the government's no-ransom policy, but said: "I'm just being realistic that, maybe there [was] a small amount [paid]," then added that after all, the kidnappers had to feed Ces Drilon and her crew for nine days. We took the answer in silence—after all, why look a gift horse in the mouth? We could have asked: If the hostage-takers wanted to save on Drilon's food allowance and room rentals, then maybe they shouldn't have abducted her in the first place? And shouldn't we charge a discount for the mosquito bites, the handcuffs and the occasional slap on the face? We don't ask, because we prefer to count our blessings instead.

What made the fib easier was that, as Ermita points out, Malacañang did not take a lead role in the hostage negotiations, and allowed the local peace and order councils, composed of the local government officials and police and military components in the area, to take the lead. By outsourcing the work to local and private negotiators, we can all maintain the pretense to principle, and we go about our day-to-day lives, that is, until the Abu Sayyaf needs a fresh infusion of cash and strikes again.

But the real point of contention is what to call the Abu Sayyaf. Are they rebel warriors, or are they merely common criminals? That question lies at the heart of the larger debate abroad in the "war against terror," and on this point, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo deviates from US President George Bush, from whom she usually gets her bearings on these weighty issues.

I agree that members of the Abu Sayyaf are plain bandits, common criminals who merely wave religious banners to cloak themselves with a lofty cause. Ms Arroyo says that "we must remind them that 'crime does not pay'." Unfortunately for us, that means that conversely we must grant them all the rights of the accused guaranteed in the Constitution: the right against warrantless arrest, the right to remain silent, to be presumed innocent, and to be convicted only upon proof beyond a reasonable doubt. That is why George W. Bush doesn't consider his Guantanamo prisoners as "accused" under the US Constitution, but merely as unlawful or "unprivileged" combatants.

Moreover, even our own antiterrorism law, the Human Security Act, which enables the government to monitor and investigate terror groups, will be short-circuited by the government's own position. That law requires some additional elements before a group is considered "terrorist." The group must have acted "to coerce the government to give in to an unlawful demand." Given Ermita's denial that ransom money changed hands, do we then prove that it is unlawful to ask to be reimbursed for board and lodging? In addition, that group must have "sow[ed] and create[d] a condition of widespread and extraordinary fear and panic among the populace." Would the latest kidnapping satisfy that test?

On the other hand, if we were to believe the Abu Sayyaf's claim that they are freedom fighters for the cause of an independent Islamic state, we concede them some propaganda points, but we also subject them to the discipline of international humanitarian law over organized armed groups. If indeed they are the warriors they claim to be, that means they are legitimate objects of military attack in case of armed encounters. In other words, if as mere criminals, they can be executed only after trial, this time, as soldiers, they can be shot in battle without any legal niceties.

(Going back to George W. Bush, neither does he consider his Guantanamo prisoners as prisoners of war because then they will enjoy the POW rights under the Geneva Conventions. But that shouldn't be a problem for Ms Arroyo: POW status arises only in international armed conflict, like those into which Bush has brought the American people, but not in internal armed conflict, like those in Mindanao.)

Moreover, if indeed the Abu Sayyaf claims to be part of a larger political movement, then Ces Drilon's first-hand account provides damning proof that it has violated the international prohibition on the use of child soldiers. She said that she and her crew were held by "bandits who were 12 years old, 17 or 15, and they were holding guns ... You'd think, why are these children holding guns instead of holding notebooks and studying?"

There is a global ban on the use of child soldiers, and the rebel groups in the Philippines have become notorious violators. Child soldiers are easy prize for rebel recruiters: they are easily manipulated, are highly impressionable and readily adopt the groups' sense of right and wrong, and are agile and energetic. The farther away they drift from the safety of their families, the more they are absorbed into the lives of their new comrades. The rebel groups can offer them food and shelter that they cannot get from their impoverished parents. In turn, the rebel armies deprive them of their childhood, numb them to the horrors of war, and transform them into killers without conscience. Recent accounts of the "Killing Fields" in Cambodia show that the youth were the most ruthless and mechanistic butchers of the Khmer Rouge.

We can fudge our answers, or we can face the questions squarely. Ransom was paid. The Abu Sayyaf are criminals, and they must be brought to justice. And the legitimate political movements of the Moro people, both armed and unarmed, must disown these criminal acts committed in their name but without their blessings.

PASSION FOR REASON
By RAUL PANGALANGAN
Philippine Daily Inquirer
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EDITORIAL
Son of Abu Sayyaf

MANILA (Philippine Daily Inquirer)—The tale of betrayal that television journalist Ces Drilon and other ex-hostages hinted at after their release is chilling, because it raises the specter of official perfidy. But even the possibility that local officials or so-called pillars of the local community were involved in the kidnapping pales beside the revelation, made by Drilon and Sen. Loren Legarda, who helped negotiate the release, that the abductors were minors.

"They were very young—15 to 17 years old," Legarda told the Philippine Daily Inquirer, recounting her experience negotiating with them over the phone. "They cannot talk at length, they are not communicative and they have not been schooled."

She recalled that Drilon and Jimmy Encarnacion, the ABS-CBN cameraman who was held captive for nine days, also told her that, at one crisis point, when their abductors seemed determined to behead Encarnacion, it was a 12-year-old who was holding the bolo.

After Drilon, Encarnacion and Octavio Dinampo, a professor at Mindanao State University, Jolo, who served as guide, were released, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita zeroed in on the disturbing aspect of the abductors' extreme youth. "These are the younger people—probably the sons of some Abu Sayyaf organizers."

They may or may not be, but of this we can be certain: They are the next generation of the Abu Sayyaf. When the bandit group reached the peak of worldwide notoriety in April 2000, with the daring raid on Sipadan (an island claimed by both Indonesia and Malaysia), Drilon's kidnappers were only 8 to 10 years old. When another faction of the Abu Sayyaf swooped down on Dos Palmas resort in Palawan in May 2001 and abducted, among many others, the missionary couple Martin and Gracia Burnham, the boy who held the bolo was then only 5 years old.

How did they turn out this way?

Ermita, himself a former peace negotiator, ventured an answer: "... they think that they're doing something to push forward the tenets of Islam. That is not true but that is how they're oriented in the same manner that the followers of Bin Laden refer to the West as infidels."

Valid, up to a point, but we should not commit the error of mistaking the Abu Sayyaf's ruthlessness for religious or nationalistic fervor. Opportunism is the real tie that binds the Abu Sayyaf, not an abiding fundamentalist commitment to the Islamic faith, not the ambition to forge an Islamic state in Southeast Asia.

The possibility that some leading personalities in parts of Sulu may have been involved in the kidnapping of Drilon and company needs to be seriously investigated. Fact must be separated from speculation. But that the possibility exists at all should not be a surprise. The Abu Sayyaf culture is opportunistic; it follows the money. Indeed, that cynical local leaders may exploit the new generation is not only possible but almost certain.

The 'other' national anthem

MANILA—Independence Day comes and goes without much fuss every year. The flag is raised in Rizal Park, Manila; in the Aguinaldo House in Kawit, Cavite; in the Mabini house recently transferred from Manila's Nagtahan area to the campus of Polytechnic University of the Philippines; in Barasoain Church in Bulacan province; and in the Pinaglabanan Shrine in Metro Manila's San Juan City. While the revolution, which started in the eight Tagalog provinces, is now commemorated in the eight rays of our flag, there should come a time when the president of the Philippines raises the flag in the Visayas or in Mindanao in celebration of Independence Day.

It is also unfortunate that the official Independence Day rites are held so early in the morning because the declaration of independence was done from the window of Emilio Aguinaldo's Kawit home in the afternoon of June 12, 1898.

This year I was watching President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo walk in step with the military band playing a famous folk tune as she was being given arrival honors, when Education Secretary Jesli Lapus asked: "Isn't that 'Atin cu pung singsing'?" I replied, "I think it's 'O caca ocaca'." It is a traditional Kapampangan song and we both wondered whether the tune was chosen because of the President's Kapampangan roots. Then the national anthem was played—the proper way, brisk and martial as the huge flag flew in the breeze at Rizal Park.

Now attuned to the music, I noticed that during the wreath-laying at the Rizal Monument (where the hero Jose Rizal is actually buried), the band played a slow, somber tune, "Maryland, My Maryland." It then struck me: Shouldn't we be playing a Philippine tune on such a solemn occasion? Why is Julian Felipe known only for our national anthem?

Surely, Felipe composed more musical pieces and we can find other tunes to use on such occasions. Perhaps, we should even go further into the music of the Philippine Revolution and revive tunes like "Alerta Katipunan" and "Jocelynang Baliuag." If we undertake some musical research, then Julio Nakpil (1867-1960) should be one of the composers who must be brought into circulation. Nakpil married Andres Bonifacio's widow Gregoria de Jesus.

Nakpil is a surname better known today for architecture (Juan Nakpil) and writing (Carmen Guerrero Nakpil); so Julio Nakpil has to be brought out of the cabinet of history and made relevant again for his music, because he composed what would have been our national anthem today had Bonifacio maintained his control of the revolutionary government. We won't go into the unending Aguinaldo-Bonifacio debate or even the Rizal-Bonifacio debate here, we will concentrate on music.

Sometime in November 1896, Bonifacio commissioned Nakpil to compose a "Himno Nacional." Deep in the wilds of Balara, under constant threat of attack from the enemy, Nakpil was able to complete a short martial air called "Marangal na Dalit ng Katagalugan."

Unfortunately, the original manuscript composition was burned in the National Library during the Battle for Manila in 1945, together with other historical papers. Nevertheless, Nakpil reconstructed the song in a manuscript dated 1953, and the lyrics read: "Mabuhay 'yang Kalayaan! At Pasulungin ang puri't kabanalan. Kastila'y mainig ng Katagalugan. At Ngayo'y ipagwagi ang kahusayan." ["Long live Freedom! Uphold the cause of honor and piety. The Spaniards have been overwhelmed by the Tagalogs. Now fight for order to triumph."]

Few people know of the Nakpil anthem because history took a turn with the establishment of a revolutionary government that made the Katipunan obsolete; then Andres Bonifacio was executed for treason against this government in 1897. The new government under Aguinaldo developed from revolutionary to dictatorial, and then it became a republic—the first republic in Asia.

Aguinaldo then commissioned Julian Felipe to compose a tune that is now our national anthem. Some music critics argue that the Nakpil anthem is better than the Felipe anthem, but all of that is water under the bridge for history has chosen a national anthem for the Philippines. Had Bonifacio been politically savvy to retain the reins of government, perhaps he would not have died the way he did in the Maragondon mountain range in 1897.

His remains have not been found to date and historians still argue about the exact site of the execution. It could be any of the hills in the area called: Nagpatong, Pumutok, Buntis or Hulog. Had Bonifacio lived to be president in 1898 and declared independence, then perhaps we will be singing the Nakpil anthem today.

LOOKING BACK
By AMBETH OCAMPO
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Comments are welcome at aocampo@ateneo.edu.

Samu't Sari

FREEDOM DAY
RC Sablan School of Music students perform a dance number during the traditional "Pistang Pinoy," held in celebration of the 110th Philippine Independence Day at the Garapan Central Park Sunday afternoon.
JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Members of the Boholano Association and United Filipino Organizations gather for a photo during the "Pistang Pinoy."
JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Members of the Bayani Association dance troupe perform a traditional Filipino dance number.
JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Hundreds of Filipino community members gather inside the Garapan Central Park to watch the "Pistang Pinoy" program.
JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Female members of the Bayani Association dance troupe perform a dance presentation in traditional Filipina attire.
JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Pistang Pinoy hosts Ulysses Torres Sabuco and Minda Castro smile for the camera.
JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Beris family members Walden, Violy, Jr., Kathleen and Kalvin gather for a photo during the Pistang Pinoy event.
JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Members of the Rated-R band entertain the crowd with their rock music.
JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Rated-R band's Ross plays the drums during their presentation.
JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Children and adults gather near the stage to watch the magic show.
JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Happy birthday greetings go out to Tatay Doming, who is shown in this photo with his loving wife Beth. "We wish you good health and happiness. Thank you for your love and support. We love you so much!" Greeting come from June, Dhorie, Jhey, Franni, JP, and your wife Beth.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Youngstyle

Saipan's lone zoo is perfect summer destination

By JACQUELINE DELA CRUZ
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JUNIOR REPORTER

If you don't have anything better to do this summer, then consider a day trip to the Tropical Garden Zoo, the place to be for teens and children who want to see interesting creatures that are not native to the islands.

Filled with different kinds of animals ranging from big cats to birds, deer to goats and sheep, the zoo is a great location for picture taking and is perfectly safe for roaming around.

Zookeeper Jeremy Shumai, who has worked for the Tropical Garden Zoo for two months now, is joined by about 10 other zookeepers who tend and feed the animals at least twice everyday.

Besides the animals, the zoo also has a snack bar where you can buy food for yourself and the animals.

Some of the star attractions at the zoo are:

Male African Lion

Male African lions are easily recognizable by their brown manes, black tufted tails and tawny yellow, tan or brown fur coats. Only male lions have manes, which provide protection around the neck during a fight. The lion is the only large cat that lives in a group called a "pride", which consists of one to four adult males and a group of females with their young. Found in grassy plains and savannas in East Africa, male African lions reach a weight of 330 to 550 lbs, and a length of 8 to 10 feet (not including their tails).

Hunting mostly at night, African lions prey on buffalo, zebras, wild hogs and antelope. In a pride, female lions do most of the hunting, while the primary role of the male is breeding and defense of the pride's territory and females.

Lions may spend up to 20 hours a day resting, and their roars can be heard for 5 to 6 miles. Male African lions have a lifespan of 12 to 16 years in wild.

DeBrazza Guenon

The DeBrazza Guenon, also known as DeBrazza's Monkey, is a medium size primate found throughout Central Africa. Colors of these animals vary by subspecies of the DeBrazza, but they are usually brown and olive gray. This long tailed primate has opposable thumbs to assist in climbing and is semi-terrestrial, spending time on the ground and in the trees. Preferring dense swamps and forest areas, the DeBrazza feeds mainly on leaves, fruits and seeds, but has been known to consume small animals and insects.

Living in small groups, the male of the species is larger than the female and can reach a size of up to 2 feet tall. The French word "Guenon" means fright and refers to the fact that these primates use a variety of facial expressions to threaten other animals. These animals will use a variety of sounds to warn their group about predators including barking, chattering and even shaking tree branches.

Serval

Servals are slender built cats that are easily recognizable because of their very large ears and long legs. Found in most parts of Africa except the very arid desert regions, servals prefer well-watered savannah environments with tall grass concealment. Servals are solitary animals that reach a body length of 27 to 39 inches and weight of 20 to 40 lbs.

Hunting mainly at dusk and dawn, the serval preys on hare, rodents, birds, frogs, lizards and insects. Servals have such as sophisticated hearing that they can actually hear the ultrasonic high frequencies emitted by rodents. This enables them to pinpoint the pounce on their prey with deadly accuracy. Servals have a wide range of vocalizations that include snarling, growling, spitting, purring and high-pitched calls. Serval populations are threatened by habitat destruction and hunting for their beautiful coats.

Spotted Leopard

Spotted leopards are easily recognizable by their dark spots. They are the most widely spread member of the cat family because of their adaptable hunting and feeding behavior. The leopard's spotted fur acts as camouflage by interacting with the light and shadows to break up its outline. They inhabit Africa, the Middle East, China, India and Malaysia.

Leopards reach a body length of 35 to 75 inches and a weight of 60 to 198 lbs, though females are considerably smaller than males. Leopards are solitary hunters that prey on monkeys, baboons, rodents, rabbits and birds. Leopards are agile hunters with exceptional climbing abilities, often stalking monkeys in trees. These unique creatures can run at over 37mph for brief periods of time. In captivity, leopards can live up to 20 years. Leopard populations are threatened due to hunting and loss of habitat.

Black Bear

Black bears are large, powerful animals with long, dense fur coats that can range in color from black, to gray, to brown or even beige. They inhabit forests and wooded mountains across North America, ranging from Canada to Mexico. Large populations are found in Canada, the Rocky Mountain States and California. Black Bears reach a height of 36 to 41 inches and weigh 200 to 600 lbs, although males are considerably larger than the females.

Active mostly at night, black bears are omnivorous and feed on small to medium sized mammals, fish, roots, fruit, honey, nuts and insects. Adept at climbing and swimming, black bears have poor vision, but keen sense of smell and can reach speeds up to 30 mph. They are solitary, territorial animals that usually occupy an 8 to 10 square mile area. Black bears have a lifespan of 20 to 25 years in the wild.

Green Iguana

This well-known reptile is found in Mexico and many parts of South America. Also known as the Bamboo Chicken, the Iguana can grow in excess of 6 feet long and over 15 pounds. With long fingers and sharp claws, these reptiles are good climbers and can be seen basking on branches over water. In the event of danger, the Iguana will drop into the water and swim away. This lizard has a large fold of skin under its chin known as the dewlap, which male iguanas use to impress females.

Young Iguanas will normally forage for insects on the forest floor, while the adult diet consists of leaves and berries. During the conflict with predators, the iguana tail will actually break off to allow escape. The body color of the iguana is ideal for camouflage and varies from green to neutral gray.

IF YOU GO…

LOCATION

In Lower Base, just past the Mobil gas station in Sadog Tasi and right on the turn toward Tanapag.

ADMISSION FEE

Local residents: $10 for adults ages 13 and above, $5 for children ages 4 to 12. Children below 3 years of age are free for the zoo.
Tourists: $15 for adults and $10 for children

HOURS OF OPERATION

Open everyday from 9am to 5pm

Working students enjoying WIA internship

By JACQUELINE DELA CRUZ
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JUNIOR REPORTER

Along with 420 interns that started last week, several teens are having a first taste this summer of what it feels like to have a real job, thanks to the Workforce Investment Agency program.

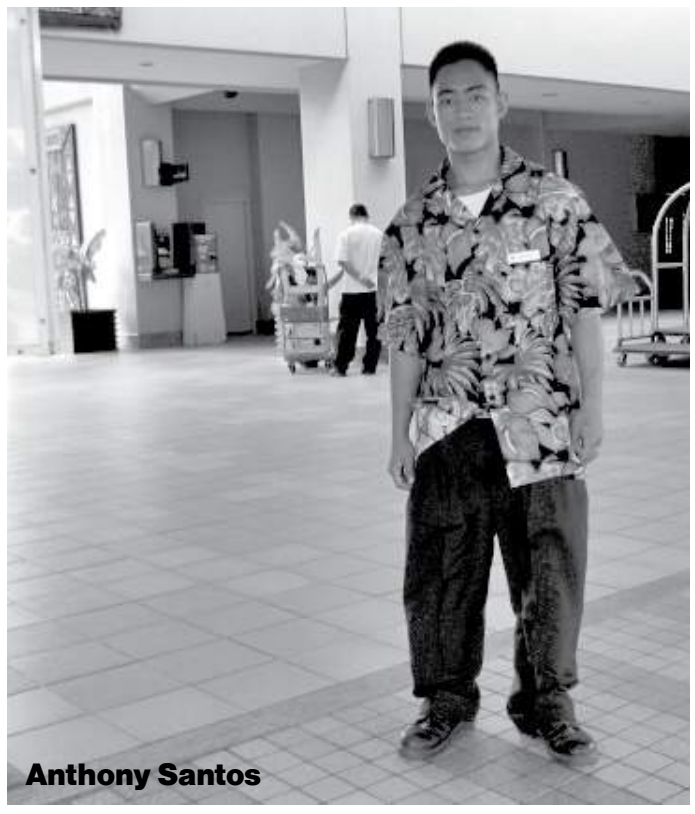
Here, three interns share their experiences while working at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Anthony Santos, 18, is currently in Kagman High School as an Advanced Development Institute student. He is also currently employed at Fiesta as a bellhop. Santos expects to graduate in March 2009.

"I learned how to answer phone calls and put luggage in order and also learned how to speak Japanese. I enjoy meeting Japanese tourists as I socialize with them by talking. Helping out the Japanese tourist and bringing their luggage to their rooms are the best part of my job," says Santos.

Daisy Babauta, 14, will be a freshman next school year at Kagman High School. She is a wait staff at the hotel's Mai's Restaurant and World Café.

"My experience so far is really great and I didn't know it would be this hard but I managed to just do it, which is really a good thing. I learned many new things as a wait staff. One was learning how to show some manners in Japanese and Chinese. The things I enjoy most are meeting Japanese and Chinese tourist and learning their languages," said Babauta.


Anthony Santos

Patsylynn Jetley

Daisy Babauta

Patsylynn Mendiola Jetley, 14, will also be a freshman next school year at KHS. This is her first time to join the WIA summer program as a front desk clerk.

"The best thing that I have learned, which I also find very nerve-racking, is answering phone calls," she laughs.

"I also get to meet many people in this kind of job. It's really fun," she added.

She also helps prepare packets for tourist and help her coworkers when they are busy.

"As an intern, it may be hard but I find it a really good experience, especially when working in a hotel. You get to learn about tourism, and get to learn their language," said Jetley.

Having a job even for summer is always a plus for teens' future employers and it enhances one's resume.

This year, the Workforce Investment Agency summer program is only for six weeks. It started June 16, 2008, and will end on July 25, 2008.

Teens are more then welcome to join again next year, or if they have not joined this year, then can always apply just as long as one is 14 years old and above.

ABOUT THE JOB

13,000
About the number of members in the International Brotherhood of Magicians (IBM), the largest group devoted to performing magic. Noland Montgomery is a member.

9,500
American members of the IBM.

10
The age at which a kid can join IBM.

241
The number of IBM members ages 10-17.

SOURCE: IBM

((c) 2008, The Washington Post)

So you want to be a magician?

By AMY ORNDORFF
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

"Boogidee, boogidee," Noland Montgomery commands.

And just like that, two foam balls become three in a clinched fist.

It's magic, and if you ask him his secret, he won't tell you. That's the golden rule of magic: no telling how the trick is performed.

Telling "takes the fun out of it for the person who just saw it," Montgomery says.

Montgomery, 56, started learning magic when he was about 12 years old. His father was in the Foreign Service. His family moved frequently and lived all over the world. Montgomery was an avid reader, and after he came across a book about magic tricks, he was hooked.

"I read it from cover to cover many times," he says.

Montgomery says that mastering a magic trick was for him similar to how some kids play video games. He would practice over and over again until his performance was flawless.

After years of perfecting his tricks and showing them to family members ("You wear your family out pretty quickly," he says), Montgomery made the leap from amateur to professional.

After many performances, he overcame his nervousness.

Eventually, Montgomery quit his job as a legal assistant to dedicate all his time to being a magician, performing for children and adults.

Rather than commuting to work through heavy traffic, Montgomery wakes up, has a cup of tea and practices. Most of his performances are in the evenings and weekends, so he spends his days preparing.

Three rooms of his house are dedicated to his work, and one includes a video camera that he uses to film his routines. When he watches his performance on tape, he is able to figure out what he can do better.

THE WASHINGTON POST
Magician Noland Montgomery performs with the help of a wily rabbit named Chester, along with props. He was named best magician in Washington, D.C., four of the past five years.

Being a professional magician has its challenges. It can take years to master some tricks, and each trick requires a lot of practice. And there is always a danger of messing up or performing a trick that audiences don't react to.

"You deal with it as best you can," Montgomery says with a shrug.

Montgomery has learned from his peers, but for the most part he has taught himself. His hard work has paid off. He was named the best magician in Washington, D.C., four of the past five years. He has even performed at the White House!

There isn't a class to take in high school, he says. You have to read books; watch other magicians perform; and practice, practice, practice. Montgomery says that anyone, at any age, can be a magician.

"You become a magician the first time you learn a magic trick," he says.

A BEACH BALL BONANZA! Let's see how careful a counter you are. You have one minute to total the number of beach balls in the storage bin.

Answer: We found at least 40.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

CLAM
SLAM
SLAP
SOAP
SOUP

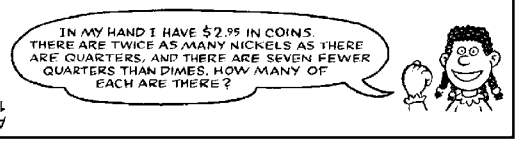
THIS CLAM CHOWDER IS TOO FRESH

In this type of puzzle you are given a word that must be changed into another word in a series of moves. During each move, you must change one letter in the previous word so as to form a new word. In our example, we changed CLAM to SOUP in four moves. See if you can change the following five words in four moves.

1. MILL to RACE
2. HOME to LAND
3. DUCK to BILL
4. COLD to HEAT
5. BACK to SEAT

Answer:
1. MILL, RILL, RILE, RICE, RACE.
2. HOME, HONE, LONE, LANE, LAND.
3. DUCK, BUCK, BULK, BULL, BILL.
4. COLD, HOLD, HELD, HEAD, HEAT.
5. BACK, BECK, BEAK, BEAT, SEAT.

THIS PUZZLE IS A REAL HANDFUL!


IN MY HAND I HAVE $2.95 IN COINS. THERE ARE TWICE AS MANY NICKELS AS THERE ARE QUARTERS, AND THERE ARE SEVEN FEWER QUARTERS THAN DIMES. HOW MANY OF EACH ARE THERE?

Answer: There are 10 nickels, 12 dimes and 5 quarters.

FIND-A-WORD! On the top line is our mystery word. You need to fill in the missing letters. Clue words (smaller words contained in letter-by-letter order within the mystery word) are defined below.

1. Upkeep, maintenance.
2. To exist.
3. Sign of injury.
4. Type of conveyance.

S				E
1.				
	2.			
3.				
4.				

Answers: 1. Care, 2. Are, 3. Scar, 4. Car. Mystery word: Scare.

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Neutered male cat still sprays

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I have a 5-year-old neutered male cat, "Boba," who sprays urine. I always thought that neutered males didn't do this. It seems like this happens every spring. Do you have any suggestions of how to make him stop? He is an indoor cat and doesn't go outside at all. I don't know if that is what is making him do this, or if it is something that can be stopped. Thank you for any help you can give me.

—Going Crazy in New York

DEAR CRAZY: Spraying is an instinctive reaction in male cats, and neutering doesn't always completely eliminate the behavior. Neutering does make the concentrated urine much less pungent, so at least there's that. Male cats mark their territory by spraying, so the action can be habitual even though the reason for spraying is gone.

You'll need to observe Boba closely to determine why he is spraying. Do you have other cats, or any other pets? How does he react to these animals? Does he react to the sight of another cat outside the window? Does he only spray in the springtime? Where and when does the spraying occur, exactly?

Rule out any underlying illnesses with a trip to the vet (who can also recommend additional steps or even anti-anxiety medication to mellow Boba out).

Cats tend to spray in the same areas over and over again, no matter how much you clean. Try putting out some deterrents—like putting his food and water near the (cleaned up) spraying area, or placing fresh citrus rinds or perfumed soap over the area. If you see Boba start to spray, make a loud noise immediately to try and distract him—several repetitions of this and he will start to associate his spraying with you not being too happy.

■ ■ ■

Send your tips, questions and comments to Paws Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or e-mail them to pawscorner@hotmail.com.

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Strange BUT TRUE

By SAMANTHA WEAVER

■ Do you suffer from pogonophobia? If so, you don't have much to worry about in this largely clean-shaven day and age. Pogonophobia is simply a fear of beards.

■ I'm sure you've heard in recent years about Americans' steadily increasing girth. It's not just our waistlines that are getting bigger, though; our homes are, too. In 1950, the average new house provided 290 square feet for each family member living there. By 2003, that figure was 893 square feet, or more than three times as much space as 50 years earlier.

■ The next time you're enjoying a sweet potato, you might consider the enormous distance it probably traveled before arriving at your dinner table. Eighty-five percent of the world's yams come from China.

■ It was noted American poet Allen Ginsberg who made the following sage observation: "Whoever controls the media, the images, controls the culture."

■ The small Minnesota town of Whalen is home to a unique celebration every year: the Stand-Still Parade. Yep, it's a parade that doesn't move. Instead of spectators lining a parade route and floats driving past, at this event the floats stand still and the people mill around to view them.

■ The first Band-Aid brand bandage didn't exactly look like the Band-Aids we're familiar with today. For instance, it was 3 inches wide and 18 inches long. A bit of overkill for a scraped elbow, I imagine.

■ The carnival treat that we in the United States know as cotton candy is called "barbe a papa," or "father's beard" in French.

■ Researchers aren't clear on exactly why it's true, but studies show that women are better at guessing people's ages than men are.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "A child's education should begin at least one hundred years before he is born." —Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

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MAGIC MAZE ● SERIF TYPEFACES

C W I N D S O R U A T N E C E
N C A X V T R T E P N L L J H
F A S D B Y X V S H L T R P O
M K M U I G A U Q I T N A E R
D B Z O D X W I B U L A T R I
Q O N L R L J Y G I G A E F N
D C N O L S A C A R Y X C H E
W V T S L L E W K C O R R P V
O S I H P M E M O B M E B N U
L B A S K E R V I L L E G K O
J I G F T H G I L T O O F E S

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Aldus	Calisto	Georgia	Rockwell
Antiqua	Caslon	Heather	Times Roman
Baskerville	Centaur	Memphis	Windsor
Bembo	Footlight	Playbill	

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	+		x		11
x		÷		x	
	−		+		11
−		+		+	
	+		+		20
11		11		13	

1 2 3 5 6 7 8 8 9

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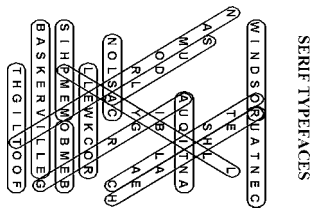
MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



GO FIGURE ANSWER

	13		11		11
20	7	+	8	+	5
	+		+		−
11	6	+	3	−	8
	x		÷		x
11	1	x	9	+	2

Grow a Pizza Garden

It's time to begin planting your summer herb and vegetable garden. This year add some whimsy to the family project by designing a circular plot with sections shaped like pizza slices. Fill each triangular area with herbs and vegetables that will grow and mature in time to place on the sauce of fresh barbecued or baked pizzas.

Grow a pizza garden in three basic steps:

1. If this is your kids' first garden, keep it reasonably small and manageable. Create a clever border by arranging large white rocks in a complete circle to represent the crust of the pizza. Arrange wooden dowels flat on the soil like the spokes of a wheel to divide the circle in neat triangles. Be sure to allow ample room in some sections for larger plants, such as tomatoes.

2. Sow seeds and plant plants. Good choices are: tomatoes, peppers, onions, basil, oregano and parsley. Set "pizza slice" clay markers in the ground to identify the plants as they germinate and grow. (See directions below.) If you don't have a backyard garden, plant a few pizza ingredients in container gardens on a sunny patio or deck.

3. Water, weed, fertilize and watch the plants grow throughout the summer. Enjoy the pleasure of harvesting your garden together.

Tip: When autumn comes, clip healthy herbs from your garden and wash and dry completely. Place into plastic bags, drizzle a little olive oil into the bag and freeze. Use as you prepare fall soups, pasta sauces and pizza.

Make pizza-slice clay markers:

Roll out self-hardening clay or clay that can be baked in the oven (available at crafts stores) to 1/4 inch to 3/8 inch thickness. Cut out 4-inch to 5-inch pizza-slice shapes. For younger kids, make a cardboard template and set on the clay. Let your child carefully cut around it with a dull butter knife.

Poke a craft or Tinkertoy stick into an edge of each slice. Set the marker on a cookie cooling rack to air dry according to product directions. When hard, paint the pizza slices with acrylic paints with images of a tomato, onion, basil, etc. When dry, an adult may apply nontoxic varnish to protect the surface from rain. If the stick slips out of the clay, secure in place with Elmer's glue.

■ ■ ■

Donna Erickson's award-winning television series "Donna's Day" airs on public television nationwide. Visit www.donnasday.com to find out when it airs on your local PBS station and to sign up for Donna's e-newsletter.

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Treasured items go missing after childhood friend's visit

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

DEAR ABBY: I recently entertained a childhood friend as a houseguest. It was our first visit in many years. After she left, I noticed several treasured heirlooms were missing -- a hand-blown glass horse sculpture and a bowl from a prominent glass company in Italy. I had hand-carried those pieces home from Italy as gifts for my parents, who have since died. They were the only things that I had from my parents, and they are irreplaceable.

I heard my friend talk about "getting" items from work. Even though I was shocked, I said nothing. I can't prove that she took the sculpture and bowl, but they were here before she came and gone after her departure. No one else has been in my home. What should I do?

NO MORE INVITATIONS

DEAR NO MORE INVITATIONS: Your childhood friend may be a kleptomaniac, or jealous of the life you have lived and took the items as a way to "even the score." One way to get your things back would be to pay the woman an unexpected visit and retrieve the items to which she helped herself. Do not go unaccompanied.

If you have photographs of the sculpture and the bowl displayed in your home, not only would they be "proof" of what she took, they could also be helpful for insuring other items of value.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: "Brent" and I have been friends since grammar school. We had always had chemistry, so at 18 we took it to another level and started dating. After three months, I broke it off because it didn't "feel right." Brent hadn't cheated on me -- in fact, we got along perfectly.

We are now 21 and ran into each other recently. All the feelings I had for him came flooding back and -- to my amazement—he said he felt the same way.

Only one thing is holding me back. I have heard the phrase, "An ex is an ex for a reason." What is your opinion?

FOUND MY SOULMATE IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR FOUND YOUR SOULMATE: Sometimes there is a kernel of truth in those hackneyed cliches. And that's why it is important for you and Brent to carefully examine what went wrong the first time before becoming involved again. It could save one or both of you from getting hurt.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I would like to thank you for a letter you printed near the end of last year. It was from "Walter H.," who was dismayed at the lack of handwritten correspondence he received. After reading his letter I was moved to send a special letter to my grandmother. I wrote it by hand and expressed my deep appreciation for everything she had done for me and also thanked her for the important role she had played in my life.

A few months later, my dear grandmother was gone. I must say that being able to tell her how much she meant to me, and being able to thank her for all she had done, helped me through the grieving process after her passing. I felt as though I had been able to say my piece to her and let her know exactly how much she was loved.

Walter H.'s letter provided me with that little bit of incentive to write my grandmother, and it helped me in so many ways. My sincere thanks to you both.

THANKFUL GRANDSON IN TORONTO

DEAR THANKFUL: I'm sure Walter H. will be as touched to read your letter as I was. Your acknowledgment of your grandmother's role in your life was the most meaningful gift you could have given her, and I'm glad you didn't procrastinate about expressing it.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

'Jamie Lynn Spears has baby girl'

JACKSON, Miss. (AP)—Jamie Lynn Spears gave birth to a baby girl Thursday morning at a south Mississippi hospital, according to a friend of the Spears family. The friend, who asked not to be identified because the family had not yet announced the baby's birth, told The Associated Press that the baby was named Maddie Briann and weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces.

The 17-year-old Jamie Lynn was the star of Nickelodeon's "Zoey 101," a sitcom about prep school friends, and is the younger sister of pop star Britney Spears. The Spears family announced in December that Jamie Lynn was pregnant. The father is Casey Aldridge, a pipe-layer from Liberty, Miss. The couple is not married but announced an engagement several months ago.

Ellen Brannan, spokeswoman for Southwest Mississippi Regional Medical Center, in McComb, would not give out any details. "We understand everybody's interested, but we don't give out information on anyone. Everyone's entitled to their privacy," she said.

The younger Spears lives near Liberty with Aldridge, 19, and has been seen around the small south Mississippi town often as her pregnancy became more apparent. Her family owns a home across the state line in Kentwood, La.

Spears announced her pregnancy through an article in OK! Magazine and was expected to receive a large payday for exclusive pictures of the newborn.

Nickelodeon issued a statement about the birth on Thursday, saying, "We wish her and her family well." Nickelodeon spokeswoman Marianne Romano said that filming of the fourth and final season of "Zoey 101" was completed last summer before Spears became pregnant.

Spears portrayed Zoey Brooks, a student at Pacific Coast Academy, a campus that had been an exclusive all-boys boarding school until Zoey and a handful of other girls arrived. At the end of the series, Zoey gets the boy—longtime crush Chase (Sean Flynn).

AP
In this Sept. 20, 2007 file photo, Jamie Lynn Spears arrives at the Teen Vogue Young Hollywood Party in Los Angeles.

25 getting Hollywood Walk of Fame stars next year

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Hollywood will enshrine an eclectic bunch in its famous curbside Walk of Fame next year, including Hugh Jackman, Ben Kingsley, The Village People and fictional Tinker Bell.

Recipients of the sidewalk stars also include Felicity Huffman, William H. Macy, Cameron Diaz, Robert Downey Jr., Tim Burton, Leslie Caron, Charles Durning, Ralph Fiennes, William Petersen, Kyra Sedgwick, John Stamos, Mark Burnett, Chuck Lorre, Kenny "Baby Face" Edmonds, Dave Koz, The Miracles, Doug Morris, Rush, Shakira, KFI radio personality Bill Handel and KCRW host Harry Shearer, who also provides voices for characters on "The Simpsons."

Cheeta isn't on the list. The animal actor, whose credits include the 1967 comedy "Doctor Dolittle" and the "Tarzan" movies, was trying for the seventh time to get a sidewalk star.

His handlers had launched an online petition to get supporters to urge the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce to give him a star in 2009.

Amy Winehouse undergoing further hospital tests

LONDON (AP)—A spokesman for Amy Winehouse says the 24-year-old soul diva is having more hospital tests after fainting earlier this week. Spokesman Chris Goodman says Winehouse had more scans and tests Thursday.

Winehouse collapsed Monday at her north London home after signing autographs for a group of fans. An assistant caught her before she hit the ground.

She is scheduled to sing at a June 27th concert to celebrate Nelson Mandela's 90th birthday, and is due to take part in the Glastonbury music festival the next day.

Her spokesman says that although Winehouse still plans to perform at both concerts, the decision "will be made entirely on the advice of her doctors and in her best interests."

AP
In this Feb. 20, 2008, file photo, Amy Winehouse performs at the Brit Awards 2008 in London.

New Oscar rule limits song noms to 2 per film

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Last time around, the Oscar songs category was three times "Enchanted"—a trick that may never be repeated.

The number of original songs that can be nominated from a single movie will now be limited to two, according to a rule change by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. The academy's governors approved the change late Tuesday.

Last year, Disney's "Enchanted" had three titles in contention: "Happy Working Song," "So Close" and "That's How You Know." The winner of best original song: "Falling Slowly," from "Once."

The new rule would also have applied in 2007, when three songs from "Dreamgirls" were nominated. That year, the Oscar went to "I Need to Wake Up" from "An Inconvenient Truth."

AP
In this Nov. 27, 2007 file photo, British actor Daniel Craig arrives for the world premiere of the film "The Golden Compass" at a cinema in London.

LONDON (AP)—What's a kiss from 007 worth?

James Bond film producer Barbara Broccoli has paid $38,000 for a kiss from Daniel Craig, who plays the suave British spy on screen.

Broccoli will also get kisses from Hugh Grant and Robbie Coltrane for her winning bid at the Great British Movie Event benefit for the National Film and Television School.

Bond's tuxedo from "Casino Royale" sold for $19,000.

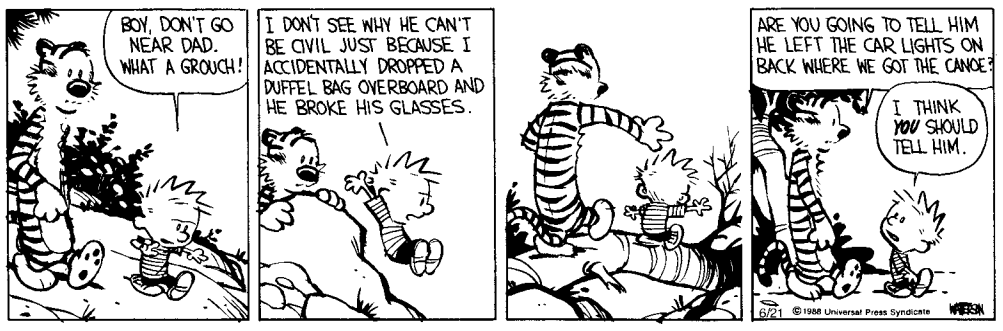
The auction, held Tuesday, raised $800,000 for the film school.

Craig paid $36,000 for an uncorrected proof of the first Harry Potter novel, "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone," published in the U.S. as "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone."

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


BOY, DON'T GO NEAR DAD. WHAT A GROUCH!
I DON'T SEE WHY HE CAN'T BE CIVIL JUST BECAUSE I ACCIDENTALLY DROPPED A DUFFEL BAG OVERBOARD AND HE BROKE HIS GLASSES.
ARE YOU GOING TO TELL HIM HE LEFT THE CAR LIGHTS ON BACK WHERE WE GOT THE CANOE?
I THINK YOU SHOULD TELL HIM.
6/21
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WATTERSON

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

WHOO! AM I FULL! WHAT A MEAL THAT WAS!
PAT PAT PAT
BOY, THAT LIZ SURE CAN COOK!
WANNA SMELL MY BEEF BREATH?
YOU'RE A CRUEL, CRUEL MAN
JIM DAVIS 6-21
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
Text GARFIELD to 22546 for JOKE
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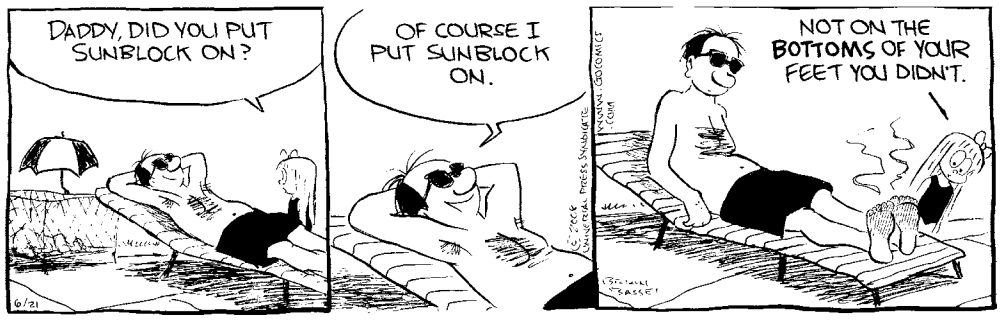
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


DADDY, DID YOU PUT SUNBLOCK ON?
OF COURSE I PUT SUNBLOCK ON.
NOT ON THE BOTTOMS OF YOUR FEET YOU DIDN'T.
6/21
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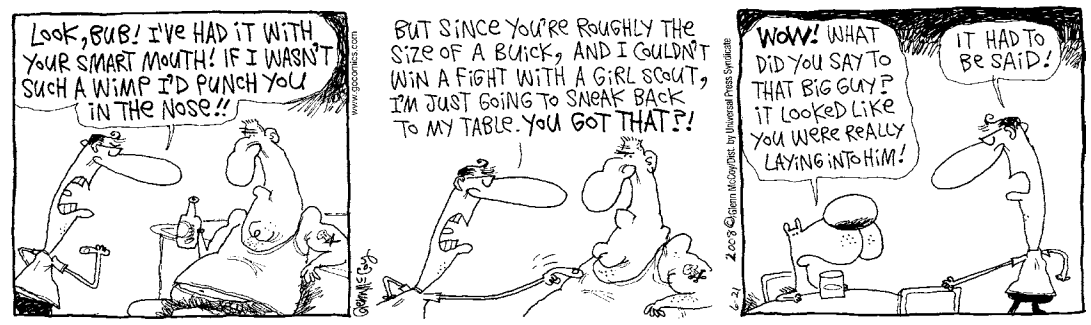
www.adamathome.com

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


Look, BUB! I've HAD IT WITH YOUR SMART MOUTH! IF I WASN'T SUCH A WIMP I'D PUNCH YOU IN THE NOSE!!
BUT SINCE YOU'RE ROUGHLY THE SIZE OF A BUICK, AND I COULDN'T WIN A FIGHT WITH A GIRL SCOUT, I'M JUST GOING TO SNEAK BACK TO MY TABLE. YOU GOT THAT?!
WOW! WHAT DID YOU SAY TO THAT BIG GUY? IT LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE REALLY LAYING INTO HIM!
IT HAD TO BE SAID!
www.gocomics.com
2oc'8 ©Glenn McCoy/Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

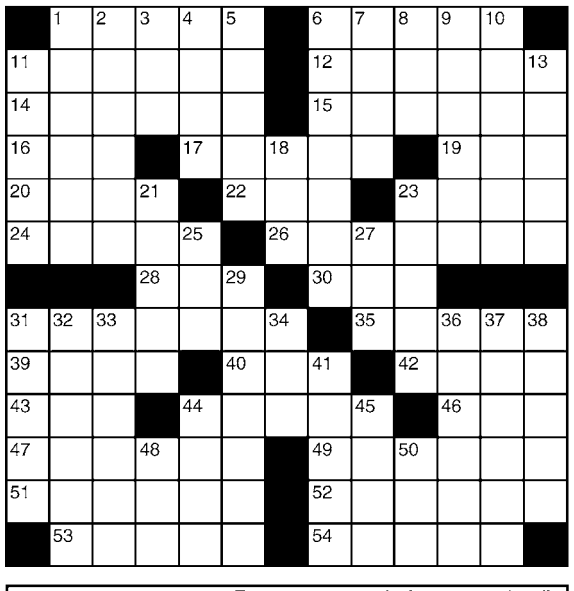
ACROSS
1 Less ruddy
6 Postpone
11 Safe
12 Skips a phoneme
14 Long-distance caller?
15 Goal
16 Lennon's lady
17 Attack
19 Previous night
20 Dog sled "giddyap"
22 Honey-comb stuff
23 Wharf
24 Bewil-dered
26 Cabinet depart-ment
28 Perfor-mance
30 Com-mand to a guard dog
31 Students at exam time
35 Must
39 Pit crew? (Abbr.)
40 Felon's flight
42 Go bad
43 Acapulco gold
44 Withdraw from office
46 Salt Lake athlete
47 Paved runway
49 Sport-fish-ing prize
51 Buffet fuel
52 Pro
53 Black tea from India
54 Singer LeAnn

DOWN
1 Goober
2 Not this way
3 Light (Sp.)
4 Geolog-ical periods
5 Get more maga-zines
6 Sobers up, big-time
7 Verve
8 Christ-mas tree, often
9 Interpo-late
10 Affleck's "Holly-wood-land" role
11 Tiny body opening
13 Cubic meter
18 Youngster
21 British P.M., 1970-74
23 Rio Grande feeder
25 Un-returned serve
27 Newton fruit
29 Phone technol-ogy, e.g.
31 Sweetie
32 Proof-reader's finds
33 Sports-page data
34 Muppet eagle
36 Rug
37 Private instructors
38 "— we devils?"
41 Abbot's head-dress
44 Carvey or Delany
45 Cab
48 "— Miniver"
50 Rota-tional meas.

Solution time: 27 mins.

B	A	C	O	N	■	I	R	E	■	O	H	M
O	B	E	L	I	■	S	A	M	■	N	E	E
B	E	L	I	E	■	O	C	U	L	I	S	T
■	■	L	O	C	A	L	E	■	L	O	S	E
A	M	I	■	E	L	D	■	D	A	N	E	S
M	O	S	H	■	L	E	M	O	N	■	■	■
P	O	T	A	T	O	■	A	M	O	S	O	Z
■	■	■	N	O	W	I	N	■	S	T	L	O
E	L	U	D	E	■	C	O	Y	■	Y	A	O
M	A	N	E	■	A	E	R	I	A	L	■	■
C	Y	C	L	I	S	T	■	E	L	I	T	E
E	E	L	■	D	I	E	■	L	A	S	E	R
E	R	E	■	O	F	A	■	D	E	T	E	R

Yesterday's answer 6-21



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Prince William, 26; Juliette Lewis, 35; Doug Savant, 44; Mariette Hartley, 68

Happy Birthday: You may not like change but you must accept it. Once you put things behind you, everything will start to turn in your favor. Open your eyes and your heart to positive and productive alterations and your life will flourish. Strength and courage will lead to victory. Your numbers are 6, 13, 23, 29, 32, 41

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): As soon as you take on too much, all will be lost. The cost will be too high and the trouble too great. Socialize and seek practical information instead of trying to do the impossible. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You can make things happen your way with a little friendly nudge. The people you love will come forward and back your decisions. Love is mounting so make an effort to do something special for the people you are close to. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Follow through with one of your creative dreams and you may end up working for yourself soon. There is plenty to do that will lift your spirits. The time to discuss future plans with a loved one is now, so start talking. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't settle for less when there is so much more you can have. Recognize your options and you will realize quickly what you can achieve. Judge what's going on around you and you will see that a change on your part can be your saving grace. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Emotions will escalate if you are worried about something or someone professionally. You have to consider what you can do to secure your position or move on to a better one that offers more benefits, cash and perks. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): It's playtime, so don't even think about laboring over work. You need to broaden your circle of friends and find hobbies or activities that take your mind off your worries. You are in a high romantic cycle, so don't waste it. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): A light bulb will go off in your head that will allow you to see your potential and the possibilities that surround you. Follow your heart and don't settle for a profession that you hate or find beneath you. Success is close by. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): There is money to be made if you put your ideas into play. A lover will help you realize the possibilities. Avoid family members who fear the unknown or confusion will set in, stifling your plans. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Mingling with people you find interesting will help you elaborate on an idea you have. A neighborhood party or traveling to visit friends will lead to a most unlikely partnership. ✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You will be drawn to anyone who is unusual or into something unfamiliar to you. You normally recognize what will and won't work but this time, you may be enticed by the individual delivering the message. Don't suffer a loss because you can't say no. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Let your heart lead the way and go all-out to make today romantic for someone you love. Share your dreams, make a commitment or plan for the future. Memories will surface, bringing you closer to someone you want to be with forever. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Love is in the air and your timing to expand your personal friendships and love relationships looks positive. Open your doors to friends and relatives and you will get great feedback that will make your future decisions easier. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are persuasive and full of charm and grace. You are smart, articulate and possess the strength and courage to hold on to your beliefs. You have insight and patience.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	6			1		4		
	9						2	5
8			7					
						2		
6			5		3			1
		7						
					9			6
1	2						3	
		8		5			7	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 6/21

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	1	8	7	5	9	2	3	6
6	5	2	1	3	8	9	7	4
7	3	9	4	6	2	1	5	8
8	4	7	9	1	6	3	2	5
5	6	1	3	2	7	4	8	9
2	9	3	8	4	5	7	6	1
1	2	4	6	8	3	5	9	7
9	8	5	2	7	4	6	1	3
3	7	6	5	9	1	8	4	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 6/20

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BANK TELLERS **Solution: 8 letters**

T	F	B	T	T	G	R	E	E	T	I	B	E	D	W
D	R	A	W	E	R	S	V	L	E	S	D	N	O	B
E	I	A	I	B	R	U	A	L	K	S	T	D	A	A
T	E	C	N	U	U	M	S	I	C	E	N	A	L	N
A	N	C	S	S	T	N	I	T	I	I	Y	I	M	K
U	D	O	U	I	A	N	D	N	W	W	S	S	O	P
L	L	U	R	N	U	C	O	L	A	O	E	I	S	C
A	Y	N	A	E	P	A	T	R	E	L	R	L	G	A
V	C	T	N	S	D	R	D	I	F	S	I	T	C	N
E	A	S	C	S	A	H	O	S	O	P	W	E	H	N
S	S	S	E	N	T	C	M	M	S	N	E	L	E	Y
E	H	E	S	I	E	I	D	I	O	V	S	L	C	(E)
T	I	F	W	I	L	D	R	A	F	T	S	E	K	(N)
A	E	A	S	E	S	R	U	O	C	S	E	R	S	(I)
R	R	S	G	N	I	T	R	O	S	L	L	I	B	(L)

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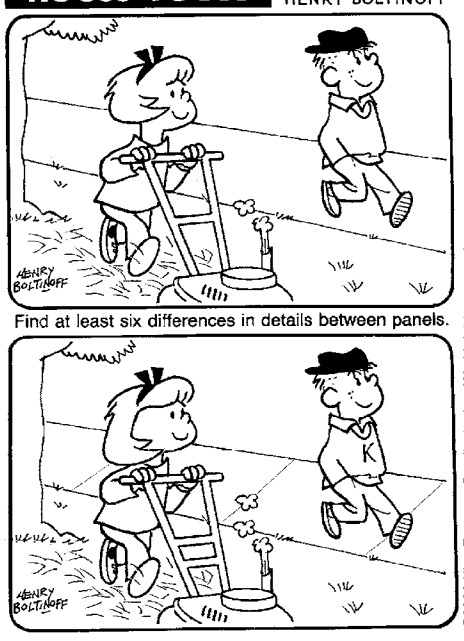
Accounts, Assist, Bank, Bills, Bonds, Bundles, Business, Cashier, Checks, Coins, Courses, Debit, Drafts, Drawers, Evaluated, Friendly, Front, Greet, Insurance, Keys, Line, Promote, Rates, Safe, Save, Sign, Slips, Smile, Sorting, Stamp, Tape, Teller, Terminal, Till, Transactions, Transfer, Trustworthy, Update, Void, Wicket, Window, Wires, Withdraw

Yesterday's Answer: Nostril

We listened to your requests! **TREASURY #6** is the first-ever Wonderword book containing only 20 x 20 puzzles, with 75 of these large puzzles. To order, send check or money order for $10.95 each plus $3.25 p&h ($14.20 total each. U.S. funds only) for the first volume, $1.50 p&h for each additional volume, to Wonderword, Universal Press Syndicate, 4520 Main St., Kansas City, Mo. 64111 or call toll-free 1-800-255-6734, ext. 6888. Order online at upuzzles.com.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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Differences: 1. Boy's sweater has letter. 2. Girl's hair is longer. 3. Sidewalk is lined. 4. More smoke coming from mower. 5. Tree trunk is wider. 6. Mower handle has extra crossbar.

Wishing Well®

6	4	5	2	8	3	5	3	4	7	4	3	6
L	S	P	F	L	B	R	I	M	F	O	N	I
7	5	2	7	5	2	7	5	6	7	6	8	6
U	O	U	N	M	N	A	O	F	F	E	E	I
5	4	2	5	2	6	2	5	2	5	3	2	3
T	O	T	I	I	S	M	O	E	N	D	S	I
4	5	3	8	7	2	6	5	7	8	7	6	5
T	A	N	T	T	A	S	T	E	T	R	U	W
7	6	5	2	4	5	2	3	5	6	3	7	2
H	N	O	H	H	R	E	G	K	N	O	O	A
7	2	7	3	6	7	4	8	3	8	3	8	4
U	D	R	F	Y	S	S	E	T	R	I	A	A
3	4	3	8	4	8	4	8	4	8	4	8	8
E	I	S	R	L	R	I	I	N	V	G	E	S

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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Super Crossword

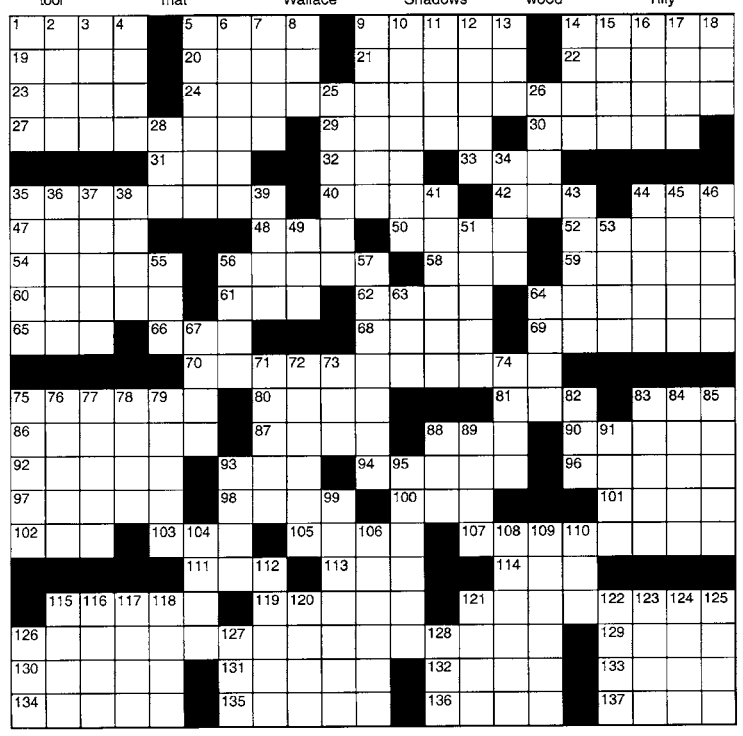
WAIST OF MONEY

ACROSS

1 Meat cut
5 "— You Babe" ('65 song)
9 Skimmer material
14 Chauvinist
19 Othello's ensign
20 — contendere
21 What the nose knows
22 Greene or Michaels
23 Be a blacksmith
24 Start of a remark by James Dent
27 Appropriates
29 Dutch artist Jan
30 Let up
31 Rep.
32 Speakeasy patron
33 Hoover, for one
35 Part 2 of remark
40 Beginning on
42 '72 Michael Jackson smash
44 Impact sound
47 Downey of "Touched by an Angel"
48 Woodworking tool
50 New York university
52 "Butterfield 8" author
54 Rouse
56 Singer Payne
58 Plant disease
59 Ponti's partner
60 Become a prune
61 Islands instrument
62 Baby —
64 Like Hercules
65 "Malcolm X" director
66 — Mahal
68 Widespread
69 Shed
70 Part 3 of remark
75 Ambush man
80 Ripped
81 Periodontists' org.
83 Bud
86 Tweety Pie, e.g.
87 Highlands tongue
88 Nobelist Octavio
90 Man from Malmo
92 Hersey setting
93 They may be personal
94 Ornamental mat
96 "Salome" character
97 Like some paper
98 Covenant
100 Opie's aunt
101 Unit of area
102 Archaic preposition
103 Conductor Queler
105 Snake sound
107 Part 4 of remark
111 Slalom curve
113 Ruby of "A Raisin in the Sun"
114 Limit
115 Sink
119 Dust busters
121 — squash
126 End of remark
129 Peace of mind
130 Soviet cooperative
131 "He's making — . . ."
132 Buffalo waterfront
133 Jocular Johnson
134 Director Sergio
135 "Beau —" ('39 film)
136 Equipment
137 Actor Wallace

DOWN

1 Speech problem
2 Neighbor of Molokai
3 Violinist Oistrakh
4 Playwright Coward
5 Spectrum shade
6 Discuss
7 Auto pioneer
8 Petite pooch
9 Prepares onions
10 ". . . baby on the —"
11 Emulate Sinbad
12 Improve
13 Violent card game?
14 Hunk of gunk
15 Pindaric character
16 Pluck
17 Fairy-tale start
18 Golfer's gadget
25 Disney rabbit
26 Tom, Dick, or Harry
28 No Einstein
34 Encourage a culprit
35 Go fishing
36 Long of football
37 Stun
38 Daily receipts
39 TV's "— Shadows"
41 Remote
43 Nick of "I Love Trouble"
44 Strauss aristocrat
45 Common contraction
46 Chutney ingredient
49 Minuscule
51 Reindeer name
53 Israeli dance
55 Tolkien creation
56 Japanese volcano
57 Rubbed the wrong way
63 Garage supply
64 Runners carry it
67 Crooked
71 Bara of the silents
72 Judd of "George & Leo"
73 "— a Rebel" ('62 hit)
74 Unclear
75 It'll give you a weigh
76 Lowest point
77 Absurd
78 Sheet of stamps
79 Carve a canyon
82 Furniture wood
83 "Thanks, Robespierre!"
84 Idolize
85 Surrenders
88 In-your-face item
89 Guinness or Baldwin
91 Sport
93 Does Little work
95 Preoccupy
99 Most methodical
104 Jacket feature
106 Hardly hyper
108 Small shrub
109 Foam
110 Choose, with "for"
112 Face lift?
115 Wet blanket
116 Concerning
117 WWII gun
118 Tropical spot
120 Handel's "— and Galatea"
121 Spotless
122 "— of the Cat" ('77 hit)
123 Reduce, with "down"
124 — Spumante
125 Poverty
126 Baseball's Ripken
127 Witty one
128 Foster or Tilly



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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. TELEVISION: The phrase, "Book 'em, Danno," was a staple on which television show?
2. MOVIES: What was the name of Tony Stark's faithful assistant in "Iron Man"?
3. MEDICAL: What function does the appendix serve in the human body?
4. U.S. STATES: What is the capital of Louisiana?
5. FASHION: What kind of jewelry was off-limits for Victorian women during the day?
6. FAIRY TALES: What was the third item that Jack stole from the giant in "Jack and the Beanstalk"?
7. GEOGRAPHY: What is the world's smallest ocean?
8. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was born on July 4?
9. LANGUAGE: What does it mean for someone to be in "high dudgeon"?
10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What makes up a shark's skeleton?

Answers

1. "Hawaii Five-O"
2. Pepper Potts
3. It has no known function.
4. Baton Rouge
5. Diamonds, which were considered evening wear
6. A magic harp
7. Arctic
8. Calvin Coolidge
9. Very angry
10. Cartilage. Sharks have no bones.

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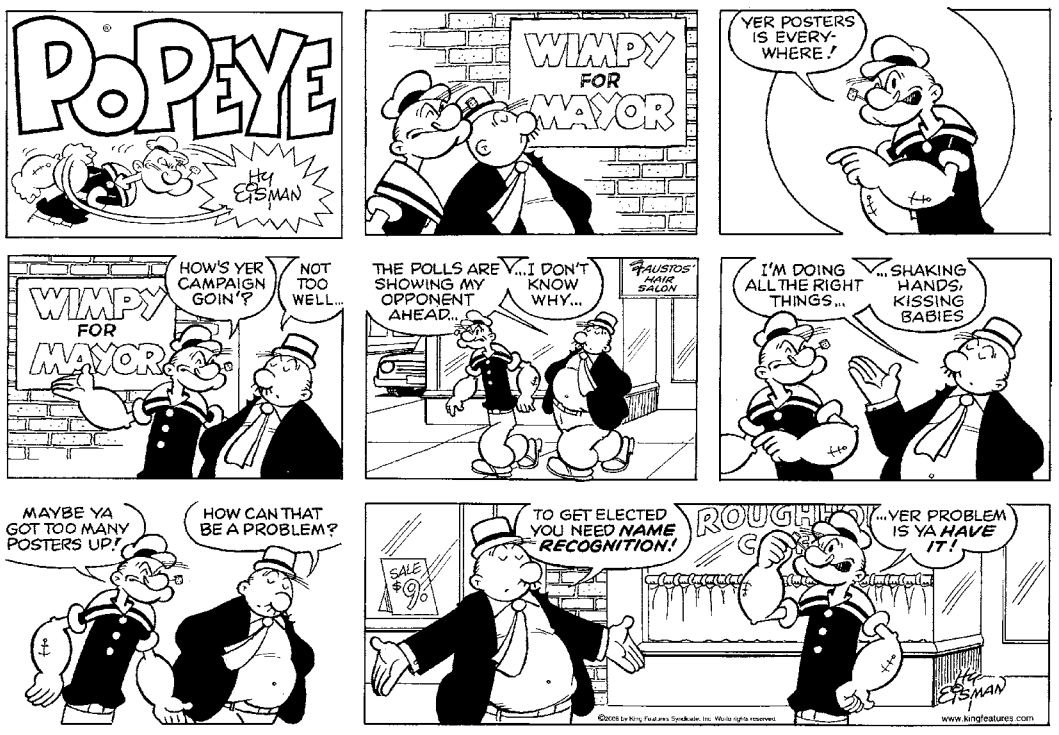
Saturday's Answers



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

EVER SINCE MY UNCLE SHOWED UP FROM CALIFORNIA EVERYONE'S BEEN WEIRD!
MOM'S BEEN MAKING FANCY MEALS AND DAD'S BEEN EXERCISING.
EVEN THE PIGS HAVE REALLY BEEN ACTING DIFFERENT.
NO WE HAVEN'T.
HEY, CUP OF JAVA DUDE?
OK, MAYBE A LITTLE.
I ♡ LA

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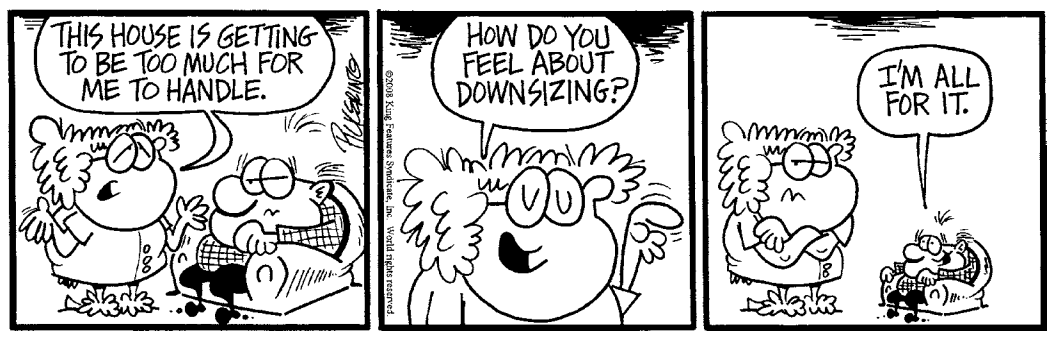
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



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MARK TRAIL
BECAUSE OF THE MANY TOURNAMENTS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, THE LARGE-MOUTH BASS HAS BECOME OUR MOST FAMOUS FRESHWATER FISH
THE SUNFISH FAMILY IS NATIVE ONLY TO NORTH AMERICA, AND THE LARGEMOUTH BASS IS ONE OF ITS 30-ODD MEMBERS
THE MOTHER OF ALL BASS, A 22-POUND, 4-OUNCE LARGEMOUTH BASS, WAS CAUGHT 74 YEARS AGO AT MONTGOMERY LAKE IN GEORGIA
TODAY BASS FISHING IS A MULTIBILLION-DOLLAR BUSINESS, WITH OVER 11 MILLION AMERICANS CASTING FOR THE "HOLY GILL" OF FRESHWATER FISH
A 25-POUND, 1-OUNCE BASS WAS RECENTLY CAUGHT IN CALIFORNIA, BUT IT WAS FOUL-HOOKED...
...MEANING THE HOOK LODGED BELOW THE DORSAL FIN ON THE FISH'S SIDE, NOT IN THE MOUTH
WHAT HAPPENED TO THIS BIG FISH?...AFTER WEIGHING AND MEASURING IT, THE ANGLER'S FAMILY ATE IT — IT WAS DURING THE DEPRESSION YEARS
THE FISH WAS WEIGHED, MEASURED AND RELEASED...RECORD FISH HAVE TO BE APPROVED BY THE INTERNATIONAL GAME FISH ASSOCIATION
JACK ELROD
IF YOU'RE NOT A FISHERMAN, GIVE IT A TRY—IT'S A GREAT SPORT, AND YOU COULD BECOME THE NEXT RECORD-SETTER

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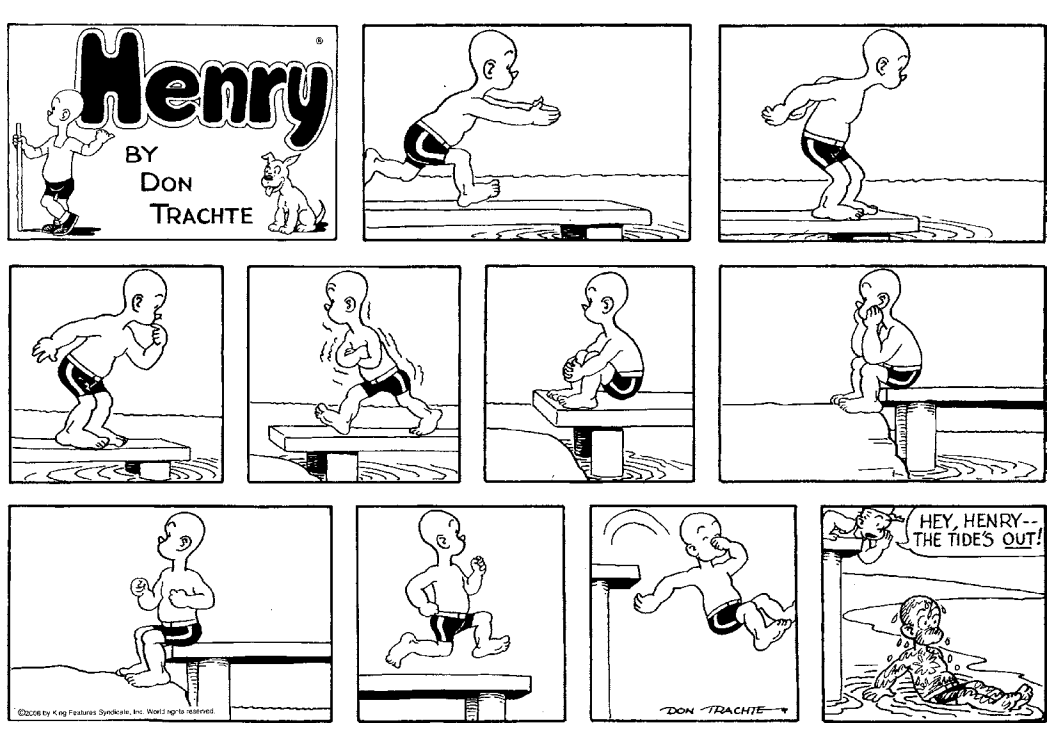

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2 Commercial Space for Rent. One 2000 sq.ft. & One 1000 sq.ft. Garapan area across Treasure Island Game Club. Contact Emil De Belen @ 483-3645/233-5100

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Comfortable family home in Dandan, unfurnished, gated, walled, secure private, large living room, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 24 hr. water, 2nd floor family room, patios on 2nd & 3rd floor with BBQ, flowers & fruits, Call 322-0268

Apartment room for rent: Fully furnished 1 brm, T/B, 24-hr water $210/month, near Conwood | Tel. 287-1372, 235-6748

Apartment Room for Rent
2BR $210. 3BR $270, Koblerville.
Tel. # 288-0728-Yoon Won Suck

HELP WANTED

Part time Hawaiian Shaved Ice handler. $4.05/hour
Food handler certification holder, Japanese speaking preferred. US citizen, IR visa only.
Pacific Creations, Inc. Tel.# 235-6606 or e-mail: kelko@p-creations.biz

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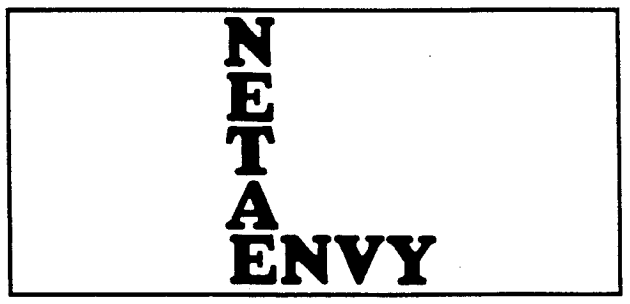
WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



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for Print and Online Editions

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3-LINER AD $25
3-LINER AD W/ PHOTO $45
5-LINER AD $35
5-LINER AD W/ PHOTO $55

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Call now at 235-2769 for more details.

Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Saipan Tribune
Liquidated Fund assets expected to top $39M
SUNDAY
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
NMI cervical cancer rate higher than mainland. PAGE 3
Three suspects in poker robbery fail. PAGE 2
House overrides veto on CUC privatization criteria. PAGE 3
Liquidated Fund assets
CLASSIFIED ADS
CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES
FOR SALE
FOR RENT

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$25
• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

All job vacancy announcements will be published for two issues in each of two successive weeks.

1st position	**$13.00**
2nd position	**$5.00**
Succeeding positions	**$2.00**

These rates apply to all job vacancy announcements on Saipan that include corresponding benefits and positions that are all under the same company name and dba.

Newspaper clippings are also available for $.25 per copy.

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Job Vacancy Announcements

Monday Through Friday Issues: All ads placed before 12 noon will come out the next publication date.

Saturday And Sunday Issues:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

Job Vacancy Announcements

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Celtics revel in cheers of fans at victory rally

BOSTON (AP)—Through a haze of his own cigar smoke, Paul Pierce peered through sleepless eyes at the sea of green-clad fans and thrust his golden MVP trophy skyward.

His day had finally arrived. A day to ride in his own championship parade. A day that gave normal people a chance to wave signs, paint their faces in Celtics colors and scream their hearts out for the latest team to bring a title to town.

"We're tired of watching these parades on TV. Now we get to enjoy our own," Pierce said after a fantastic season that followed nine frustrating ones in his Boston career. "I haven't had any sleep yet, so now I'm still enjoying it."

The Celtics earned Thursday's "rolling rally" celebration with an amazing comeback season topped off by a stunningly dominant 131-92 win over the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday night in Game 6 of the NBA finals. Pierce was the series MVP.

It was the Celtics' first title without Red Auerbach, the team patriarch who died in October 2006 after being part of the other 16 championships, nine as coach. The cigars smoked by players and fans were a tribute to Auerbach's custom of lighting one up on the bench in the waning moments of still another win.

"We wish he could be here," Pierce said before he lit his cigar on his duck boat, "so I'm doing this to honor him."

Players rode in the amphibious tourist vehicles like those used by soldiers in World War II. They also transported the New England Patriots after their Super Bowl championships in February of 2002, 2004 and 2005 and the Boston Red Sox after their World Series victories in October 2004 and 2007.

AP

Wyc Grousbeck, Boston Celtics managing partner and governor, flashes the Celtics newly won championship banner during a parade celebrating team's NBA basketball championship in Boston, Thursday, June 19, 2008.

Now it was time for Pierce, Kevin Garnett, Ray Allen and their teammates to travel a nearly two-mile route from TD Banknorth Garden, the arena where the title was won in the team's 108th game of a grueling season—82 of them wins—to Copley Plaza near the finish line of the Boston Marathon.

"We've seen plenty of people go through their championship parades," Allen said, "and never did I think I would be a part of one. It's great to definitely do it here in Boston."

Police reported 21 arrests, mostly for disorderly conduct and disturbing the peace. But fans had one last chance to enjoy the team's first title in 22 years and the area's sixth in 6 1/2 years

"Who would have ever thought? Boston. Title town," said Ryan Stillman, 21, who was born five months after Boston won its last championship on June 8, 1986.

Boston went 66-16 one season after going 24-58, the second worst record in the league.

The mastermind was general manager Danny Ainge, who traded for Garnett and Allen. The field general was coach Doc Rivers. Both let the players absorb the glory.

"As an executive," Ainge said before the rally, "these guys are like my kids."

All along the route, fans held signs declaring "Sweet 17," the number of Celtics championships, and "Have a Cigar."

Nick D'Ambrosia, a pennant vendor from Hamden, Conn., said when the team won Game 4 in Los Angeles, he bought a batch of $7 pennants to hopefully sell at a Boston victory parade.

"It's better when they haven't won in a long time. Everyone loves a new winner," he said.

Michael Shaughnessy skipped work to bring his 4-year-old grandson Gavin Carter, a big Garnett fan.

"I like that he gets all the shots and he dunks," Gavin said, tugging at his own miniature No. 5 jersey while Garnett himself carried the championship trophy on his duck boat.

At the start of the rally, construction workers across Causeway Street from the Garden looked down from openings in a building where windows will go. Other onlookers stood on fire escapes. Confetti cannons shot green and white paper into the air as workers stood by with brooms ready to clear them away once the parade passed.

As the duck boats pulled out of the parking lot, Bob Messina watched in his powder blue Larry Bird No. 33 Indiana State jersey. Now 37, Messina remembers the 1986 celebration at City Hall Plaza.

"I just remember Larry Bird and his curly blond hair," he said. "I'll never forget it as long as I live. To be here now that I'm a little bit older, I could die a happy man."

Thursday's rolling rally didn't make any stops, but fans saw Pierce, Garnett, James Posey, Leon Powe and Sam Cassell chomping on stogies. And they saw 289-pound rookie Glen "Big Baby" Davis travel along the route topless, showing that not all his baby fat was gone.

Meredith Heijl, 20-year-old student from Boston was so excited to see them pass, she broke her green flip flop trying to take Pierce's picture.

"That was the highlight of my year," she joked, even though he didn't wave in her direction.

Many adults at the parade were struck by the youth of the crowd.

"I think the Celtics have a new following that's more the early 20s crowd," said Alan Sprinsky, 55, of Braintree, who surveyed the scene from a lawn chair in front of the St. Paul's Cathedral on Tremont Street. "I bet there's not too many kids in school today."

The weather helped the turnout that was 20 to 30 people deep at spots. The Red Sox celebrated in November and the Patriots in February, but the Celtics parade took place under sunny, late-spring skies that allowed the crowd to leave the winter coats at home and come out in shorts and T-shirts.

Before the rally, Celtics managing partner Irv Grousbeck unfurled a 2008 championship banner, a replica of the one that will hang from the rafters. "The first of several, we hope," he said in a Garden hallway. Rivers commissioned the new banners for owners and players.

Co-owner Wyc Grousbeck, Irv's son, got a congratulatory call from President Bush on Wednesday. On Thursday, the younger Grousbeck thanked fans.

"I would say you guys made it happen," he said. "There was no way the Lakers could win when they stepped on the floor in Game 6 with the electricity in the building. I know who won the game, and it was actually the fans."

And a bunch of cigar-puffing, trophy-toting athletes who took one last journey together before a new banner is hung next to the other 16.

Beasley may be best, but Bulls could go with Rose

DEERFIELD, Ill. (AP)—Derrick Rose's response was as direct as one of his passes.

The best player in the draft? He reiterated it's Michael Beasley.

"Hands down he is," Rose said after working out with the Chicago Bulls on Thursday.

The No. 1 pick? It could be Rose.

While he was quick to praise Beasley again, just as he did at the NBA's pre-draft camp, Rose also made it clear he would love to play for his hometown team.

The Chicago Bulls have the top pick in the draft next week and an important decision to make. Do they go with Beasley, the forward from Kansas State who would give them a scoring presence? Or Rose, the point guard from Chicago who led Memphis to the NCAA championship game?

While Beasley indicated earlier in the week that he would visit Miami, which has the No. 2 pick, Rose had no other trips planned. The workout on Thursday was his first—and perhaps only—one.

"Right now, he's not scheduled to work out with the Heat," said Reggie Rose, his older brother. "This might be the last stop, I hope."

Reggie Rose said they are willing to visit Miami, but, "This might be it."

If the Bulls are it, that would be just fine with Derrick Rose, who grew up on the city's South Side and played at Simeon High School before leading Memphis to the NCAA final in his lone season with the Tigers.

Rose averaged 14.9 points and 4.7 assists while leading Memphis to an NCAA Division I record 38 victories and was particularly good during the NCAA tournament. He averaged 20.8 points and dominated Kansas in the championship game until the final seconds of regulation.

Memphis was leading by two when Rose stepped to the line with 10.8 seconds left and a chance to seal the victory. Instead of making it a two-possession game, he made one of two free throws. That gave Kansas a chance to tie it and the Jayhawks' Mario Chalmers did just that after Memphis couldn't foul, sending the game into overtime with a 3-pointer that crushed the Tigers.

"It was real tough knowing that I was one of the reasons we lost, not hitting a free throw," Rose said.

Now, he could be the man who helps the Bulls rebound from their most disappointing season in years. Expected to contend in the Eastern Conference after three straight playoff appearances, Chicago lost 49 games as players bickered with each other and their coaches.

Scott Skiles was fired in December, and interim coach Jim Boylan lost his job at the end of the season. The Bulls finally hired Vinny Del Negro after a two-month coaching search in which they seemed ready to go with Mike D'Antoni and then Doug Collins.

Along the way, Chicago's luck took a turn for the better when it defied 1.7-percent odds and won the lottery.

"When I signed with (agent) Arn Tellem, we were in a room," Rose said. "He was like, 'Which team do you want to play for?' And he was like, 'I know your hometown.' Everybody in the room started laughing because we thought it was impossible. That night when the Bulls got the No. 1 pick, I was looking at the TV like this can't be true."

Rose said he never owned a Michael Jordan jersey growing up. He paid closer attention to LeBron James and the two could have something in common in the near future: No. 1 picks who got drafted by the local team.

"I would love to play here," Rose said. "It's a dream come true. You get to bring the Bulls back to where they're supposed to be, hopefully, take it step by step and make progress."

But if Beasley's the best player, why should the Bulls take Rose?

"I think I can control the team a little bit more," Rose said. "I think I'm a leader. And I think I'll push the players and everyone else to have that attitude."

If Chicago doesn't pick him?

"I'll be hurt a little bit, but my goal is to be playing in the NBA," Rose said.

Joba strikes out career-high nine, Yankees edge Padres

NEW YORK (AP)—Joba Chamberlain struck out a career-high nine, Alex Rodriguez had another key hit and the New York Yankees beat the San Diego Padres 2-1 in interleague play for their seventh straight victory on Thursday.

The Yankees set up both their runs with stolen bases and cut down Adrian Gonzalez twice at home plate in the first four innings.

New York extended its longest winning streak of the season with a second consecutive three-game sweep against a National League team.

Chamberlain allowed one run in 5 2-3 innings but has yet to earn a decision in four career starts.

Rodriguez, who homered in the previous four games, drove in the tiebreaking run in the sixth with a single off Josh Banks (2-1).

AP

New York Yankees pitcher Joba Chamberlain tips his cap top the crowd after he left the mound with two outs in the bottom of the sixth inning against the San Diego Padres in their baseball game at Yankee Stadium in New York, Thursday, June 19, 2008.

Twins 9, Nationals 3

At Minneapolis, Michael Cuddyer hit a two-run triple and reached base all four times up and Glen Perkins won for the first time in five starts as Minnesota completed a three-game sweep.

Perkins (3-2) gave up 10 hits in eight innings, nine were singles.

Washington left 10 runners on base and lost its 45th game of the season, more than every other team in the majors except Seattle. It scored only six runs in the series after arriving here off a three-game sweep over the Mariners.

Washington starter Shawn Hill (1-4) failed to finish the fourth and left with a 7-2 deficit.

Brewers 8, Blue Jays 7

At Milwaukee, Dave Bush took a no-hit bid into the eighth inning before it was broken up by the player he was traded for, and Milwaukee barely held on from 8-0 up.

Lyle Overbay opened the eighth by slicing a triple just beyond the reach of diving left fielder Ryan Braun. Bush (3-7) was dealt to the Brewers in 2005 for Overbay.

Joe Inglett hit a two-out grand slam that highlighted the Blue Jays' six-run rally in the ninth.

Rangers 5, Braves 4

At Arlington, Texas, Michael Young broke out of a slump with a game-ending RBI single and rookie Brandon Boggs hit a three-run homer as Texas rallied twice.

With the score 4-all, Ian Kinsler led off the ninth with a double off Blaine Boyer (1-5). After an out, Young lined a single to right off Jeff Bennett. Kinsler scored without a throw to the plate, and Young, 1-for-31 heading into the ninth, was mobbed on the field by his teammates.

Atlanta's Chipper Jones went 0-for-4 as his major league-leading batting average (.394) fell below .400 for the first time since April 12.

White Sox 13, Pirates 8

At Chicago, Jermaine Dye hit two homers, including a seventh-inning grand slam, and drove in six runs as Chicago finished a three-game sweep of Pittsburgh.

Orlando Cabrera homered and had four RBIs as the White Sox rallied from a 6-0 deficit. They had 19 hits in a 16-5 win in Tuesday's series opener and had 15 more Thursday. The White Sox had 37 runs and 44 hits and hit 10 homers in the series.

After the Pirates scored six unearned runs in the second with Nate McLouth hitting a three-run double and Freddy Sanchez a two-run homer, the White Sox responded with six in the bottom half—capped by Cabrera's three-run homer.

Royals 4, Cardinals 1

At St. Louis, Zack Greinke and two relievers combined on a two-hitter, and Kansas City completed its first three-game sweep of St. Louis since 2001.

Mark Teahen hit a two-run homer off Chris Perez in the ninth, missed the cycle by a double, and had three RBIs for the Royals, who are 7-2 in interleague play despite being in last place in the American League Central.

Diamondbacks 2, Athletics 1

At Phoenix, Justin Upton hit a tiebreaking homer in the eighth inning for Arizona.

Upton drove a 3-2 pitch from Keith Foulke (0-2) into the pool area in right-center field to open the eighth, his ninth homer. Upton, who was 2-for-13 on the Diamondbacks' six-game homestand, also doubled and scored Arizona's other run in the fourth.

Arizona left-hander Doug Davis, making his sixth start since returning from cancer surgery, went six innings, allowing one run and three hits. He walked two and struck out eight, a season high.

Rays 8, Cubs 3

At St. Petersburg, Florida, Carl Crawford hit his second career grand slam in a seven-run seventh inning that carried Tampa Bay to victory and a three-game sweep of Chicago.

Chicago had been the only major league club that hadn't lost more than two consecutive games this season.

Tampa Bay set a club record for victories (43) before the All-Star break and climbed 14 games over .500 (43-29) for the first time in franchise history.

Orioles 7, Astros 5

At Baltimore, Alex Cintron had three hits, including one of Baltimore's three home runs, and Houston had its losing streak extended to eight games.

Ramon Hernandez and Aubrey Huff also connected for the Orioles, whose last three-game sweep of an interleague opponent came in June 2005—at home against Houston.

Miguel Tejada and Hunter Pence homered, and Lance Berkman had three hits for the Astros, who have been outscored 57-28 during the streak.

Rockies 6, Indians 3

At Denver, Jorge De La Rosa struck out a career-high 10 and Willy Taveras had three hits and scored twice, leading Colorado over Cleveland for a sweep of the three-game series.

De La Rosa (2-3) overcame a shaky start to surrender just three runs in six innings and walked one. Indians starter Jeremy Sowers (0-2) struck out four and didn't walk a batter in six innings of work.

Matt Holliday was 2-for-3 with two RBIs and Jeff Baker homered for the third straight game for Colorado, which has won three straight and 11 of 15.

Mariners fire manager McLaren, promote Riggleman

SEATTLE (AP)—John McLaren was fired Thursday as manager of the Seattle Mariners, who began the season with playoff aspirations and now have the worst record in the major leagues. Bench coach Jim Riggleman will run the Mariners for the rest of their lost season, beginning Friday night in Atlanta.

The Mariners made the announcement before the team left on its road trip and three days after general manager Bill Bavasi was fired. McLaren was the second manager in the majors to be fired this season - the New York Mets dismissed Willie Randolph this week.

Seattle is 25-47 and 17 1/2 games behind the Los Angeles Angels in the AL West.

"We hadn't shown any improvement for the last couple of months. In fact, we were probably regressing," interim GM Lee Pelekoudas said.

This season, the revamped Mariners expected to reach their first postseason since 2001. Instead, they are on pace to become the first team to lose 100 games with a $100 million player payroll.

"John worked extremely hard to try to make this club better ... and did everything he could to try to make us win games," said Pelekoudas, who called the decision "emotional" for both because they are close friends since their days with the Mariners of the 1990s.

"But compared to our expectations going into the season, it was clear we were underperforming on a lot of levels."

Pelekoudas said with the July 31 trading deadline approaching, the team has decisions to make on who may go next.

"To give the players a chance to improve ... we thought a different voice was needed," he said.

The likable, folksy McLaren was an assistant for 21 1/2 years in the majors before he took over as Seattle's manager last July when Mike Hargrove abruptly quit. McLaren went 68-88 in less than a full season on the job.

McLaren did not immediately return a message left on his cell phone by The Associated Press.

When asked Wednesday night if he was worried about his future before yet another loss, to Florida, the mostly sunny McLaren laughed.

"You know, it's business as usual for me," he said, with a hint of emotion in his voice and eyes. "I come out here with the positive attitude, ready to grind. It's a new day. Not happy with where we are, but I know where we want to go. And I'm here just to work hard."

"I'm here to win this game tonight. That's the attitude I will always have."

Not anymore.

Seattle players, many of whom consider McLaren a friend, hadn't been informed before the morning announcement. Before leaving for Atlanta, they held a meeting in a closed clubhouse with Riggleman, a former manager of the San Diego Padres and Chicago Cubs whom McLaren added to his staff last winter.

Riggleman is Seattle's fifth manager since Lou Piniella ended the best tenure in franchise history following the 2002 season.

Pelekoudas wouldn't answer whether McLaren was too nice and jovial for an already soft team. The fill-in GM only chuckled uncomfortably, as if he didn't know how to respond.

Later, he almost did while describing Riggleman.

"Jim's a serious man. He's not a guy looking to have fun," Pelekoudas said.

McLaren became Seattle's unintended manager when Hargrove suddenly resigned midway through last season as the Mariners were making a surprising challenge the AL West. Under McLaren's lead, they stayed in contention into late August before a nine-game losing streak doomed them.

Executives gave McLaren a roster this season most believed was talented enough to make a strong run at the Angels. Instead, the Mariners have been a "dysfunctional" unit—as Bavasi said on his way out earlier this week—and stumbled from the start.

The acquisition of ace Erik Bedard has been mostly a bust. He has just four wins in 12 starts entering his turn Friday. All-Star closer J.J. Putz is on the disabled list for the second time this season. And an anemic offense is filled with players performing nowhere near their career averages.

Riggleman, who was unavailable for comment while traveling with the team, has over 1,000 games of managerial experience in the majors. He managed the Cubs from 1995-99, leading them to the NL wild card in '98, and spent two full seasons managing San Diego.

Woods' injuries shouldn't preclude more wins

CHICAGO (AP)—Doctors who treat the kinds of knee and leg injuries that ended Tiger Woods' victorious season have one word for his U.S. Open victory—remarkable.

"The fact that he had surgery two months ago and seemed to visibly be in pain with certain shots ... I find it remarkable that he could play as well as he did and win a major tournament," said Dr. David McAllister, a UCLA sports medicine specialist.

Still, there's no reason to think it will be Woods' last—despite needing surgery to repair a ruptured left knee ligament and treatment for a double stress fracture in the same leg's shinbone, experts said Thursday.

But even if Woods returns to playing championship-level golf next year, as expected, his prospects further down the road are uncertain. The repeated wear and tear on his knee, including an operation that will be his third in five years, could result in early arthritis that might eventually slow down his career, said Dr. Charles Bush-Joseph, the Chicago White Sox' team physician and an orthopedic surgeon at Rush University Medical Center.

"Given his natural ability and athletic talent, I think his chances are excellent. He should be able to get back and compete at the same level. How well he holds up long-term over the next five to 10 years, that's what's in doubt," Bush-Joseph said.

Woods, 32, announced Wednesday that he will have surgery to reconstruct the anterior cruciate ligament he ruptured last year while running. It will sideline him for the rest of this season's PGA Tour and likely will require up to nine months of recovery, experts said.

He also revealed he needs time off to recover from stress fractures discovered after his April surgery to clean out cartilage damage from the ACL injury.

The ligament is a band of fibrous tissue at the center of the knee that helps stabilize the joint. When the ACL is injured, cartilage, the knee's natural shock-absorber, can tear, said knee specialist Dr. Nicholas DiNubile, a spokesman for the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and consultant to the Philadelphia 76ers.

Reconstructive ACL surgery typically involves replacing the damaged ligament with a piece of tendon taken from another part of the patient's knee. Ligaments from cadaver donors also are sometimes used. Surgeons generally make a small cut below the knee, insert a narrow tube and thread the tendon or graft up the tube and position it into the knee joint.

Woods' decision not to have surgery last year when he first injured the ACL wasn't necessarily misguided, doctors said.

The initial rupture likely was extremely painful, but soreness and swelling typically subside. McAllister said he has treated older, amateur golfers who opted not to have surgery for ACL injuries and continued playing without any problems.

But when swelling and pain recur, it suggests the knee is unstable and probably at risk for damage to cartilage, McAllister said.

DiNubile said delaying surgery might have worsened the damage, but having the surgery would have ruined Woods' season and his thrilling U.S. Open win on Monday would never have happened.

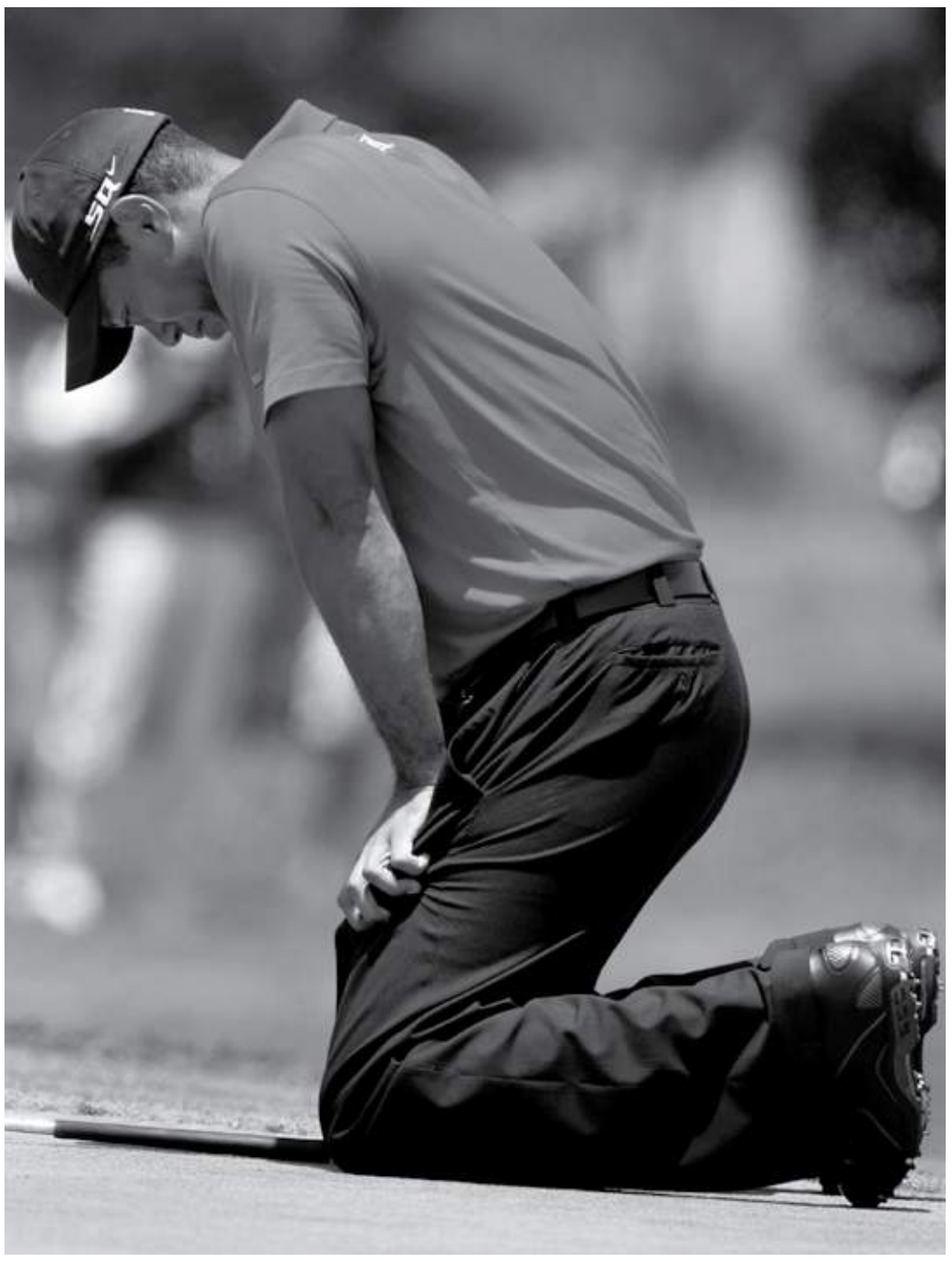
Added Dr. Riley Williams, an orthopedic surgeon at Hospital for Special Surgery in New York: "One could say he had a mixed result. He obviously made millions of dollars and had seven or eight more wins on tour. So it's hard to argue with his decision.

"But ultimately—as I'm sure his doctor told him—that knee problem is going to win," Williams said.

Woods' doctors said his intense rehabilitation after his April cartilage operation and preparing for the Open likely caused the stress fractures.

For right-handed golfers like Woods, the left knee takes the brunt of stress from the swing. But the high speed and torque of Woods' well-known "violent" swing puts even more stress on that left knee, said Dr. Sherwin Ho, a University of Chicago sports medicine expert. Ho said that could have contributed to the stress fractures and other damage.

Stress fractures are cracks in bones typically caused by overuse. They can be mild or pretty serious, depending on the location, McAllister said. Treatment includes rest, avoiding the activity that caused the fractures, or surgery in severe cases.



AP

In this June 16, 2008 file photo, Tiger Woods drops to his knees after missing a birdie putt on a sudden death hole following an 18-hole playoff round for the US Open championship at Torrey Pines Golf Course in San Diego.

Lowery, 3 others shoot 64s at PGA's Travelers

CROMWELL, Conn. (AP)—Johnson Wagner says he could shoot a 61 while playing the TPC River Highlands on his old Sega Genesis video game as a kid.

The actual course didn't give Wagner much more of a challenge Thursday in the Travelers Championship when he shot a 6-under 64 to match Steve Lowery, Brad Adamonis and Englishman Brian Davis for the first-round lead.

With temperatures hovering in the low 70s and soft greens from rain Wednesday night, conditions set up nicely for the field. Seven players were a shot back at 65, and another 16 shot 66s. Of the 156 players, 104 shot under par.

"We had no wind and it was just kind of there for the taking today with it being so soft," Wagner said. "But get a little wind and get this place firm and it's all you can ask for, so I'm happy to get a good round when I needed too.

Wagner, who is looking for his second career victory after winning in Houston earlier this season, eagled the 296-yard 15th after hitting his approach shot within 18 inches of the pin.

Lowery also won this year, at Pebble Beach in February. He was the first leader in the clubhouse, after playing his first golf in almost two weeks. Lowery decided to skip this year's qualifying for the U.S. Open because he felt fatigued.

He sat at home and played with the kids and watched the Open on TV. He practiced a bit, but said he didn't play a single round of golf.

"Regardless of the golf courses, when I'm tired I don't do as well, and when I'm rested I tend to play better," he said. "Hopefully, I'll stay rested this week."

Davis, looking for his first tour win, and is coming off disk injuries to his back and neck that he says have affected his swing since late last season. He started the day hitting his first shot into the trees.

"I didn't have a lot of good vibes then," he said. "I holed a 5-footer for bogey. It's funny how a round somehow starts with a bogey and ends up being good. I mixed in a couple of birdies and kept on rolling."

Adamonis, from nearby Cumberland, R.I., also eagled the 15th and had to overcome a heckler who yelled during his swing on the second shot on the 17th hole. Despite a bit of a miss-hit, the shot managed to clear the course's signature lake and land on the green, 25-feet from the hole.

"It must have been a Yankees fan," said Adamonis, a die-hard Red Sox rooter. "I think I would have been a little more mad if it had hit the water."

John Huston, Peter Karmis, Justin Rose, Lucas Glover, Ken Duke, Tom Pernice Jr. and amateur Michael Thompson shot 65s. Thompson, coming off a U.S. Open that saw him tie for 29th place, had the shot of the day. His 199-yard approach on the par-4 10th hole found the cup.

"I'm here to have fun," he said. "There's no pressure, there's nothing to lose, just going out and playing golf and see how I do."

Only three of the top ten players on tour are playing in this year's tournament, which has a $6 million purse and a top prize of just over $1 million.

Stewart Cink, Vijay Singh and Kenny Perry each finished at 4 under. Many other big names decided not to make the cross-country trip from last week's U.S. Open in San Diego.

Fairfield native J.J. Henry, the winner two years ago, also was among those who finished two shots back. Henry, who grew up coming to the tournament with his family, won the event in 2006 and tied for 13th a year ago.

"It was pretty easy out there," he said. "It wasn't very stressful."

Giants' Bradshaw jailed in southwest Virginia

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—New York Giants running back Ahmad Bradshaw is serving a 30-day jail sentence on a probation violation in southwest Virginia, his legal counsel said Thursday.

Charles A. Stacy said in a news release that Bradshaw, who reported to the Abingdon Regional Jail on Sunday, is being held on a violation from the Tazewell County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.

Stacy said the underlying charge stems from an offense that occurred while Bradshaw, a native of Bluefield, was a juvenile.

"Mr. Bradshaw has not been charged with any offense since being drafted by the New York Giants and is eager to put this matter behind him and begin training for next season," Stacy said in the statement.

His office declined to release any additional information.

Bradshaw, a key player in the Giants' Super Bowl victory against the New England Patriots last February, reported to the jail under a court order and is being held without bond, jail employee Stephen Clear said.

Bradshaw, who played in college at Marshall, rushed for 45 yards in New York's 17-14 victory against the Patriots. He also recovered a fumble.

The Giants said they were aware of Bradshaw's situation.

"This situation is not the result of any recent incident," the team said. "It stems from an issue that occurred prior to Ahmad being drafted by the Giants. Beyond that, we have no further comment."

After a dazzling career at Graham High School, where he rushed for 5,265 yards and 92 touchdowns, Bradshaw was recruited by and originally enrolled at Virginia, but was dismissed from the Cavaliers football team without ever playing a game after pleading guilty to resisting arrest and underage drinking, both misdemeanors, and being placed on probation.

He rushed for almost 3,000 yards and 31 touchdowns in three seasons at Marshall after joining the team as a walk-on, but also had another arrest, this time for allegedly stealing a PlayStation 2 video game.

He pleaded guilty in that case to misdemeanor petit larceny and was given two years probation. A 12-month jail sentence was suspended.

NMC Proa schools Legislature, 111-75

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Northern Marianas College Proa finally had a full deck Wednesday night and it showed the way they pummeled Legislature, 111-75, as the 2008 PTI Inter-Government Business Basketball League continued Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The game, however, was not as lopsided in the early goings as Legislature only trailed 22-24 and 43-47 in the first two quarters.

But NMC came out smoking in the third quarter and led by Jose Tumaquip, Joe Villacrusis, and Larry Guerrero, outscored Legislature, 32-19, to open up a 15-point lead heading into the fourth and final quarter.

Proa continued its smooth sailing in the payoff period, while Legislature fell deeper into lackadaisical play that saw it sputtering to the finish by adding a mere 13 points in the final 10 minutes of the contest.

In contrast, the islands' lone tertiary institution ballooned its lead to more than 30 points even as their shock-troopers replaced their first stringers by the middle of the fourth.

MARK RABAGO

Northern Marianas College Proa forward Jake Villagomez goes up for two of his eight points in their game against Legislature Wednesday night in the 2008 PTI Inter-Government Business Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

With the likes of Chris Tomakane, Jake Villagomez, and Ray MacDuff leading the way, NMC routed Legislature in the last canto to the tune of 34-13 to win the game by whopping 36 points.

The win allowed NMC to improve its win-loss mark to 2-1, while the loss was the fourth in five outings for the boys from Capital Hill.

Joe Villacrusis was on target all game long, firing 26 points in the victory. Lawrence Buniag, Tumaquip, and Mark Wallace also finished with double-digit scores for NMC in the win.

Dave Apatang wound up as Legislature's leading scorer after burning the nets for 21 points. Ray D.L. Guerrero also added 18 in the loss.

NMC 111 – Villacrusis 26, Buniag 13, Tumaquip 11, Wallace 10, Roberto 9, Guerrero 9, Villagomez 8, Tomokane 8, Manibusan 8, MacDuff 5, Diaz 4.

Legislature 75 – Apatang 21, Guerrero 18, Ilo 11, Duenas 9, Cabrera 7, Besong 5, Bermudes 2, Punzalan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-22, 47-43, 77-62, 111-75.

Referees: Michael White and Gilbert Espinosa.

MAIN

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he would love to take on San Nicolas tonight but the more than 30-lbs. weight difference is just too much of a disadvantage for him. He also added that 175-lb. limit was the deal and he abided by it.

The main event aside, all 12 mixed martial arts fights scheduled tonight have been greenlighted with all 24 fighters passing their weigh-ins last night.

San Nicolas actually should've taken his cue from Slade "The Rage" Adelbai who used to weigh north of 250 lbs. but will take on Neil "Lion Heart" Taisacan at a lean 188 lbs.

The other matches for Trench Warz VIII-Kontra are: Guam's Ryan "The Dentist" Urquizu vs. Arnold "Killer B" Balbin; Spike 22 Guam's Rudy "The Uzi" San Nicolas vs. Zalaka's Lyle DL Guerrero; Team Peskadot's Jay "Taby" Muna vs. Spike 22 Guam's Jun "Shakaraba" San Nicolas; Trench Tech's Giovanni "Palaxi" Sablan vs. Team Marianas Elite's Maitai "The Charger" Charley; Syl "The Deal" Teregeyo vs. Kontra's Robert "The Pitbull" Palacios; and Rick "Too Slick" San Nicolas vs. Ton "Debbs" Sablan in a heavyweight match everyone should see.

Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez vs. Brandon Camacho of Team Predator; Chris "No Luv" Layug vs. stand-up gladiator Derrek Chen of Team Zalaka, "Kill" Bill Saures against Darryl "The Derailer" Salas, Purebred Saipan and Grappling Unlimited Hawaii's Jose "No Way" Mafnas vs. "Brutal" Bryson Sablan, and Trench Tech's "Badd" Brad Palacios vs. Zalaka's Andrew Sablan are the rest of the fights for Trench Warz VIII-Kontra.

OCEANIA

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phone teams—Tahiti and New Caledonia—spent yesterday sightseeing in the northern part of Saipan, Marpi.

The 2008 Oceania Grand Prix's schedule today will have women's high jump, women's shot put, and men's javelin throw all set at 5pm.

The women's 1500 meter run is set at 5:30pm with the men's 1500m run, men's high jump, and women's triple jump coming up 15 minutes later.

The women's javelin throw, men's shot put, and women's 400m hurdles are also scheduled at 6pm, followed by the men's 400m hurdles at 6:15.

Set at 6:30pm are the women's 5000m run, the men's 5000m run, and the men's triple jump, while the women's 100m sprint and the men's century dash commence at 7pm and 7:15pm, respectively.

The Oceania Grand Prix squad is made up of 41 athletes representing 12 member federations of Oceania Athletics. They include, among others, Tonga's Ana Po'uhila, Papua New Guinea star sprinter Mae Koime, her teammate Toea Wisil, and Aussie powerhouse Brendan Whelan.

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for third with their 0-1-0 slate. Devil's Advocates and Deaniacs are tied for fifth having 0-0-1 standing.

The Thai duo of Phonsutjit and Thethaiguy, meanwhile, are leading in the Men's Golden Boot competition with two goals apiece. The women have yet to score, so everyone in the league is tied for first place.

NMIFA Co-ed Soccer Summer League coordinator Angelo Villagomez said the league lasts for eight weeks, with games played on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons. Each team will play one game per week.

Games will start at 5:15pm on game days and will consist of two 35-minute halves with five-minute halftimes.

For more information about the 2008 NMIFA Co-ed Soccer Summer League, contact co-ed league commissioner Angelo Villagomez at 285-6462.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	46	29	.613	_
Tampa Bay	43	29	.597	1 1/2
New York	40	33	.548	5
Baltimore	37	34	.521	7
Toronto	35	39	.473	10 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	41	31	.569	_
Minnesota	37	36	.507	4 1/2
Detroit	34	38	.472	7
Cleveland	33	40	.452	8 1/2
Kansas City	31	42	.425	10 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	43	30	.589	_
Oakland	39	33	.542	3 1/2
Texas	37	37	.500	6 1/2
Seattle	25	47	.347	17 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	42	32	.568	_
Florida	39	33	.542	2
New York	35	36	.493	5 1/2
Atlanta	36	38	.486	6
Washington	29	45	.392	13

Central Division

Chicago	45	28	.616	_
St. Louis	42	32	.568	3 1/2
Milwaukee	39	33	.542	5 1/2
Pittsburgh	34	39	.466	11
Houston	33	40	.452	12
Cincinnati	33	41	.446	12 1/2

West Division

Arizona	39	34	.534	_
Los Angeles	34	38	.472	4 1/2
Colorado	31	42	.425	8
San Francisco	31	42	.425	8
San Diego	31	43	.419	8 1/2

Yesterday's Games

L.A. Dodgers 7, Cincinnati 4
N.Y. Yankees 2, San Diego 1
Minnesota 9, Washington 3
Milwaukee 8, Toronto 7
Texas 5, Atlanta 4
Chicago White Sox 13, Pittsburgh 8
Kansas City 4, St. Louis 1
Arizona 2, Oakland 1
Baltimore 7, Houston 5
Tampa Bay 8, Chicago Cubs 3
Colorado 6, Cleveland 3

TRAVELERS CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

CROMWELL, Connecticut (AP)–Scores Thursday from the Travelers Championship, a $6 million (£4 million) U.S. PGA Tour event at 6,837-yard, par-70 (35-35) TPC River Highlands:

FIRST ROUND

Steve Lowery	32-32	64
Brian Davis	32-32	64
Johnson Wagner	33-31	64
Brad Adamonis	33-31	64
Ken Duke	34-31	65
Lucas Glover	35-30	65
Michael H. Thompson	34-31	65
Tom Pernice, Jr.	33-32	65
Justin Rose	31-34	65
John Huston	33-32	65
Peter Karmis	32-33	65
Kevin Stadler	33-33	66
Peter Lonard	35-31	66
Chris DiMarco	34-32	66
Stewart Cink	32-34	66
J.J. Henry	33-33	66
Kent Jones	33-33	66
Bubba Watson	33-33	66
Notah Begay III	32-34	66
Tag Ridings	30-36	66
Tim Herron	32-34	66
Vijay Singh	35-31	66
Kenny Perry	35-31	66
Fred Funk	33-33	66
Billy Mayfair	34-32	66
Dustin Johnson	32-34	66
Justin Bolli	32-34	66
Briny Baird	36-31	67
Matt Kuchar	35-32	67
Vaughn Taylor	33-34	67
Frank Lickliter II	35-32	67
Kevin Sutherland	34-33	67
Jim McGovern	35-32	67
Chad Campbell	33-34	67
Larry Mize	34-33	67
D.J. Trahan	34-33	67
David Toms	33-34	67
Tim Wilkinson	36-31	67
Ryan Palmer	35-32	67
Cameron Beckman	35-32	67
Jason Day	34-33	67
Jason Dufner	34-33	67
Bob Sowards	34-33	67
Webb Simpson	34-33	67
Brett Quigley	33-34	67
Steve Marino	33-34	67
Patrick Sheehan	32-35	67
Heath Slocum	34-33	67
John Mallinger	35-32	67
Nicholas Thompson	35-32	67
Chris Stroud	33-34	67
Craig Kanada	34-33	67
Dudley Hart	36-32	68
Ben Curtis	35-33	68
Jeff Maggert	35-33	68
Stuart Appleby	33-35	68
Olin Browne	35-33	68
Ted Purdy	34-34	68
Charlie Wi	36-32	68
Scott McCarron	35-33	68
James Driscoll	34-34	68
Kenneth Ferrie	33-35	68
Paul Claxton	36-32	68
Scott Sterling	36-32	68
Jason Allred	35-33	68
Nathan Green	34-34	68
Brian Bateman	35-33	68
Corey Pavin	35-33	68
Hunter Mahan	33-35	68
Steve Allan	36-32	68
Nick O'Hern	35-33	68
Bill Haas	35-33	68
Mark Brooks	34-34	68
Brett Rumford	35-33	68
Michael Letzig	37-31	68
Luke List	32-36	68
Andrew Buckle	33-35	68
Len Mattiace	34-35	69
Ryan Armour	37-32	69
Tommy Armour III	33-36	69
Troy Matteson	35-34	69
Jerry Kelly	35-34	69
Eric Axley	35-34	69
Jay Williamson	35-34	69
Shane Bertsch	36-33	69
Charles Warren	34-35	69
Ryan Moore	35-34	69
David Lutterus	36-33	69
Marc Turnesa	36-33	69
Richard Johnson	33-36	69
Jeff Gove	37-32	69
John Riegger	35-34	69
Mark Hensby	32-37	69
Greg Kraft	36-33	69
Bob Tway	36-33	69
Tim Petrovic	36-33	69
Lee Janzen	36-33	69
Harrison Frazar	32-37	69
Billy Andrade	34-35	69
Bob Estes	34-35	69
Michael Allen	33-36	69
Brenden Pappas	34-35	69
Kevin Na	36-33	69
Fran Quinn	36-33	69
Jon Mills	34-36	70
Jin Park	36-34	70
Martin Laird	37-33	70
Richard S. Johnson	35-35	70
Cliff Kresge	35-35	70
Omar Uresti	36-34	70
Joe Ogilvie	36-34	70
John Rollins	36-34	70
Carl Pettersson	35-35	70
Steve Elkington	35-35	70
Tommy Gainey	38-32	70
P.H. Horgan III	34-36	70
Doug LaBelle II	34-36	70
Y.E. Yang	37-33	70
Robert Gamez	35-36	71
Brandt Jobe	34-37	71
Jason Gore	34-37	71
Brent Geiberger	34-37	71
Robert Garrigus	36-35	71
Carlos Franco	36-35	71
Mathias Gronberg	35-36	71
Steve Sokol	33-38	71
Woody Austin	37-34	71
Jonathan Kaye	35-36	71
Stephen Leaney	37-35	72
Brad Elder	35-37	72
Rod Pampling	35-37	72
Jeff Overton	36-36	72
Shigeki Maruyama	36-36	72
Jimmy Walker	36-36	72
Bob Heintz	39-33	72
Bo Van Pelt	33-39	72
George McNeill	36-36	72
J.P. Hayes	37-35	72
Chad Collins	35-37	72
Gavin Coles	35-37	72
Kyle Thompson	35-37	72
Paul Stankowski	35-38	73
J.B. Holmes	37-36	73
Todd Demsey	37-36	73
Brian Gay	35-38	73
Cody Freeman	38-35	73
Matt Jones	36-37	73
Ron Whittaker	36-37	73
Travis Perkins	36-37	73
Kevin Streelman	37-36	73
Jose Coceres	35-39	74
Nick Flanagan	36-38	74
Joe Durant	40-35	75
Tom Scherrer	39-36	75
Chez Reavie	35-40	75
Andrew Gruss	39-41	80

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

Govt Basketball Standings

PTI	1	0
BOG	4	1
DCCA	3	1
DOC	2	1
Autonomous	2	1
NMC	2	1
Aguaguat	1	1
Tinian	2	3
Legislature	1	4
DPS	0	3
DPW	0	3
CPA	0	0

NMIFA Standings

Team	Record	Goal Diff.
Captain Morgans	1-0-0	+2
Gil Fever	1-0-0	+1
Sureshanks	0-1-0	0
GMF	0-1-0	0
Devil's Advocates	0-0-1	-1
Deaniacs	0-0-1	-2

NMC Proa schools Legislature, 111-75

Northern Marianas College Proa finally had a full deck Wednesday night and it showed the way they pummeled Legislature, 111-75, as the 2008 PTI Inter-Government Business Basketball League continued Wednesday night

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Celtics revel in cheers of fans at victory rally

Through a haze of his own cigar smoke, Paul Pierce peered through sleepless eyes at the sea of green-clad fans and thrust his golden MVP trophy skyward.

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Main event on hold in Trench Warz VIII

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Myron "The Natural" San Nicolas was given until 8am this morning to shed 28 lbs. in order to fight Jason "Rush" Tarkong in the main event of tonight's Trench Warz VIII-Kontra at the Trench Tech Gym in San Antonio.

Trench Tech president and Trench Warz promoter Cuki Alvarez said that San Nicolas officially tipped the scales at 208 lbs. prior to last night's weigh-in in at Hard Rock Café Saipan.

That is 33 lbs. over the 175-lbs. limit he and Tarkong agreed on three months before Trench Warz VIII-Kontra. Tarkong, however, said that if San Nicolas slims down to 180 lbs. he would still be amenable to fight him inside the octagon.

In an interview with the *Saipan Tribune*, Tarkong said

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JACQUELINE HERNAN DEZ

Nineteen of the 26 fighters scheduled to see action in tonight's Trench Warz VIII-Kontra pose on stage following the official weigh-in held yesterday at Hard Rock Café Saipan.

Oceania Grand Prix start today

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

The 2008 Oceania Grand Prix kicks off today with 16 events lined up at the Oleai Track and Field.

By all indications, Oceania Athletics Association executive director Yvonne Mullins is already anticipating that Saipan will stage six terrific days of track and field events at the Oleai Sports Center.

Mullins and Tahiti OAA representative Titaua Maurin actually have been on Saipan since June 6 working with Dr. Kurt Barnes, Robin Eugenio-Sapong, and Rep. Ray Tebuteb from the local organizing committee to ensure a smooth start to the 2008 Oceania Championships.

Teams from Tahiti and New Caledonia were the first to arrive in the CNMI's capital Thursday followed shortly by athletes from the Cook Islands, half of the Papua New Guinea team, two from Vanuatu, and one each from Samoa, Fiji, and Australia.

Flights from Cairns, Guam, Seoul, and Tokyo were also expected last night.

Meanwhile, the two Franco-

See OCEANIA on Page 27

OCEANIA ATHLETICS

Tahiti and New Caledonia teams to the 2008 Oceania Grand Prix and 2008 Oceania Championships spent yesterday sightseeing in the northern part of Saipan, Marpi.

Two-man race in 3000m steeplechase

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

The CNMI's very own Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel will see action in the men's 3000m steeplechase in the 2008 Oceania Championships set this Monday, June 30, at the Oleai Track and Field.

His only competition will be Tim Rogers of Norfolk Islands and with the two having no seed times, there is no telling who among them will finish first in the middle distance event.

Oceania Athletics website, however, has some insight in other middle distance events set for next week in this year's Oceania Championships.

Australia's Brendan Whelan, for instance, will again be the man to watch in the men's 5000m. He is expected be challenged by Tahiti's new junior record holder Tupuhoe Tahi.

Grergory Fosailafu of Solomon Islands, Skene Kiage of Papua New Guinea, Romeo Makura of Vanuatu, and Lavi Sam of Vanuatu, meanwhile, look as though they could rise to the occasion in the rush for the minor medals.

Another race that is expected to go down the wire is the men's half marathon. The fastest seed time has been submitted by Tahiti's Tutea Degage. A close second is Whelan followed by Tony Gordon and Tahiti's Teioa Izal.

The under-18 men's 3000m has just two competitors with the only seed time belonging to Guam's Christopher Magtoto. He will go up against Gregory Fosailafu of the Solomon Islands.

There are only four entries for the women's 5000m, and none of the competitors has a seed time.

Guam's Marie Benito and Saipan's Mamiko Oshima will try to outrun each other in the women's half marathon, while New Zealand's Danielle Trevis appears to be a lock in the under-18 women's 3000m with a seed time of 10:08.38, with the next best seed times more than two minutes slower.

Guam has a good chance of bagging medals with Chantel Torres and Joni Aguon leading them and it will be interesting to see the form of 12-year-old Jessie Anderson of the Solomon Islands.

MARK RABAGO

Jesse Phonsutjit, right, scored two goals in Devil's Advocates' 2-3 loss to Gil Fever in Tuesday's 2008 NMIFA Co-ed Soccer Summer League game at the CPA Airport Field.

2-2 draw for Sureshanks, GMF

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

The 2008 NMIFA Co-ed Soccer Summer League continued Thursday night with the game between Sureshanks and GMF ending in a 2-2 draw at the CPA Airport Field.

Steve McKagan and Tyce Mister found the back of the net for the Sureshanks, while Dan Westfall and Daniel Macario scored for GMF.

Last Wednesday, Captain Morgan's beat Deaniacs by a score of 3-1. Allen Mijares, Tiger Lee, and Zach Posner scored for the winning team, while Brenda Schultz scored for Deaniacs, but since she plays for another team, her goal won't count toward the Golden Boot award.

Last Tuesday, Gil Fever edged out Devil's Advocates, 3-2. Jack Thethaiguy found the back of the net twice for the winners, while Jesse Phonsutjit was responsible for Devil's Advocates two scores.

After one week of play, Gil Fever and Captain Morgan's are tied for first 1-0-0 record, while Sureshanks and GMF are tied

See 2-2 on Page 27